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CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Further on Athens North Atlantic Council Session 1
Kozyrev Meets British Foreign Secretary *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
Kozyrev on 'Frank' Talks With Christopher *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
Baltic Ministers Condemn Russian Policy *[BNS]* 1
Churkin Meets Karadzic *[ITAR-TASS]* 1
Naval Exercise Held; Iranian Submarine Observes *[IZVESTIYA 11 Jun]* 2

INTERREGIONAL AFFAIRS

CIS Council of Defense Ministers Meets in Moscow 3
Shaposhnikov Opens Session *[ITAR-TASS]* 3
Post of Commander in Chief Abolished *[ITAR-TASS]* 3
48.5 Billion Rubles Spent on Black Sea Fleet *[ITAR-TASS]* 3
CIS States Discuss Industrial Issues in Kazakhstan *[Kiev International]* 4
ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 15 Jun 4

RUSSIA INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Foreign Ministry Welcomes U.S.-DPRK Nuclear Talks *[ITAR-TASS]* 5
Institute Reports on Economic Conditions in DPRK *[Seoul YONHAP]* 5
Foreign Ministry Views Resumption of Arab-Israeli Talks *[ITAR-TASS]* 5
Kozyrev Comments on Vienna Human Rights Conference *[ITAR-TASS]* 6
Preparations for Yeltsin's Visit to Greece Complete *[ITAR-TASS]* 6
Fedorov Meets Swedish Premier, Signs Tax Agreement *[ITAR-TASS]* 7
Karelia Signs Cooperation Agreement With Finnish Province *[ITAR-TASS]* 7
Khasbulatov Call For Fleet Settlement Published *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 15 Jun]* 7
Emergency Chairman Committee on Mission for Abkhazia *[ITAR-TASS]* 8
Reorganization of Transcaucasus Border District Eyed *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 9 Jun]* 8
Problems Foreseen in GATT Membership Possibilities *[KOMMERSANT-DAILY 15 Jun]* 8
Commentary Views Continuing Civil War in Angola *[Moscow International]* 9
Agreement Signed With Mexico on Scientific Cooperation *[ITAR-TASS]* 9

RUSSIA NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Constitutional Conference

Yeltsin Meets Republican Heads, Regional Leaders *[ITAR-TASS]* 10
Plenary Session Set for 16 Jun *[Moscow Radio]* 10
Yeltsin, Khasbulatov Agree on Joint Work *[Moscow TV]* 10
Yeltsin Aide: New Constitution 'Transition' Document *[Moscow International]* 10
Khasbulatov, Soviet Chiefs View Constitutional Process *[ITAR-TASS]* 10
Constitutional Conference Continues 14 Jun 11
TV Reports on Proceedings *[Russian TV]* 11
Burbulis Outlines Work *[Radio Rossii]* 11
Further Report on Progress *[ITAR-TASS]* 11
Yakovlev Cited on Work Completion *[ITAR-TASS]* 11
Federal Structure Discussed *[Moscow Radio]* 12
President, Vice President, Speaker Viewed *[Russian TV]* 12
Lukyanov Cited on Constitutional Conference *[PRAVDA 11 Jun]* 12
Trade Unions Support Continuing Conference After Break *[Radio Rossii]* 14

Political & Military Issues

New Democratic Preelection Bloc Issues Statement *[IZVESTIYA 15 Jun]* 14
Burbulis on Formation of 'New Political Structure' *[Moscow International]* 15
Fedorov Urges 'Resolute, but Cautious' Steps *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 9 Jun]* 15
Grachev Censured in Unlawful Dismissal Case *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 10 Jun]* 17
Officers Caught in Attempt To Sell Strategic Material *[SEGODNYA 11 Jun]* 18
Border Patrol Ships To Use St Andrew's Flag *[ITAR-TASS]* 18
'Zvezda' Ejection Seat Plant Faces Uncertain Future *[Moscow TV]* 18

Supreme Soviet

Khasbulatov Speech Urges 'Consensus' *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 11 Jun]* 19

Regional Affairs

Khasbulatov Message to Chechenya Published *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 15 Jun]* 24
Mari-El President Favors 'Compromise' Constitution *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 10 Jun]* 24
N. Ossetian Residents Say No Coexistence With Ingush *[ITAR-TASS]* 25
Farmers To Refuse Contracts for State Deliveries *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 10 Jun]* 25
Moscow Calls Up Reservists To Help With Farm Work *[IZVESTIYA 9 Jun]* 26
Former Deputy Condemns Dudayev; Supports USSR 'Revival' *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 11 Jun]* 26
Kalmykian President, Minister on Development Plans *[Moscow TV]* 27
Tatar Party Leader Stands Trial in Kazan *[ITAR-TASS]* 28

UKRAINE

International Affairs

Kravchuk Said 'Convinced' of START Ratification *[MOLOD UKRAYINY 11 Jun]* 30
Government Insists on Russian Compensation for Warheads *[Kiev International]* 30
Defense Ministry Denies Plans To Lease Base to Russia *[DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA 10 Jun]* 30
Kravchuk Meets DPRK Parliamentary Delegation *[ITAR-TASS]* 30
Israeli Knesset Speaker Holds 'Historic' Talks *[ITAR-TASS]* 31

National Affairs

Kravchuk Meets Union Leaders To Discuss 'Crisis' *[UKRINFORM]* 31
Kravchuk Decree on Stabilizing Social-Political Situation *[UKRINFORM]* 31
Cabinet 'Mostly' Satisfies Strikers' Demands *[UNIAN]* 32
Supreme Council Meets To Discuss Strike, Elections 32
No-Confidence Motion in Kravchuk *[ITAR-TASS]* 32
Referendum Issue on Agenda *[ITAR-TASS]* 32
Plyushch Submits Drafts on Elections *[Kiev International]* 33
Session Continues *[ITAR-TASS]* 33
Kravchuk Addresses 15 Jun Session *[ITAR-TASS]* 34
Further on Developments in, Reaction to Strike 34
Strike Prompts Separatist Talk *[IZVESTIYA 11 Jun]* 34
Tens of Thousands at Rally *[ITAR-TASS]* 34
Dnepropetrovsk Miners Strike *[Moscow TV]* 35
38 Kharkov Enterprises Participate *[UNIAN]* 35
Democratic Party Condemns Strike *[UNIAN]* 35
Nationalists Blame Kravchuk *[UNIAN]* 35
Miners Warned Against Dumping *[Kiev International]* 35
Bank Issues New Mutiple-Use Coupon *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 11 Jun]* 35
Crimean Parliament Decides on Position Regarding Fleet *[Moscow TV]* 36
Justice Ministry Registers 'Ukraine-Russia' Society *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 9 Jun]* 36
Symposium on Chernobyl AES Reveals Differing Views *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 11 Jun]* 36

WESTERN REGION

Belarus

Constitutional Hearings Could Take Until Spring *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 11 Jun]* 38
Shushkevich Comments on Rise in Prices *[BELINFORM]* 38
Trade Unions Win Compensation After Price Increases *[Moscow TV]* 38

Moldova

Snegur Requests Media Help Against 'Negative Phenomena' *[BASAPRESS]* 38
Dniester Conflict Talks Reach 'Deadlock' *[BASAPRESS]* 39
Official Notes Slow Pace of Agricultural Reform *[BASAPRESS]* 39

CAUCASUS

Armenia

Ter-Petroysan Concerned Over Karabakh Indecision *[Yerevan Radio]* 40
More on Ter-Petrosyan Statement *[ITAR-TASS]* 40
Ter-Petrosyan Travels to Stepanakert *[SNARK]* 40
Presidential Aide Welcomes Karabakh CSCE Decision *[ITAR-TASS]* 40
Karabakh Regions Reportedly Come Under Shelling *[SNARK]* 41
Martuninskiy Commander Killed in Fighting *[Yerevan Radio]* 41

Azerbaijan

Elchibey Receives Foreign Diplomats 14 Jun *[ASSA-IRADA]* 41
Warns of Coup, Threat to Democracy *[Baku Radio]* 41
Further on Elchibey Address *[ITAR-TASS]* 42
U.S. Embassy Press Attache Cited on Evacuation *[ASSA-IRADA]* 42
Guseynov Threatens Attack on Baku 'Tonight' *[Russian TV]* 42
Elchibey Holds 'Closed Doors' Meeting With Aliyev *[ASSA-IRADA]* 43
Geydar Aliyev Interviewed on Crisis *[London TV]* 43
Aliyev-Guseynov Talks Said 'Not a Success' *[ASSA-IRADA]* 44
Aliyev Interviewed on Talks *[Moscow TV]* 44
Aliyev Said Aiming at 'Seizing Power' *[Istanbul TURKIYE 13 Jun]* 44
Presidential Aide: Guseynov Intends To Be Leader *[TURAN]* 44
Gyandzha Said 'Calm'; Guseynov Interviewed *[IZVESTIYA 15 Jun]* 45
Activities of Gyandzha 'Insurgents' Reported *[TURAN]* 46
Movements Detailed *[ASSA-IRADA]* 46
Regional Leaders Removed *[TURAN]* 46
Rebel Troops Disarmed *[AFP]* 47
People's Front Against Concessions to Rebels *[ITAR-TASS]* 47
Political Leadership, Parties Hold Consultations *[TURAN]* 47
Baku Rally Ends, Organizers Threatening To Reassemble *[AZERTAC]* 47
Karabakh Deputy Says CSCE Incapable of Solving Crisis *[ITAR-TASS]* 48
Karabakh Leader Sends Message to CSCE's Rafaelli *[ITAR-TASS]* 48
Presidential Adviser Welcomes Karabakh Decision *[TURAN]* 48

Georgia

Shevardnadze Receives U.S. Congressman *[Tbilisi Radio]* 49
Abkhazian Forces Guarantee Safety for Humanitarian Aid *[ITAR-TASS]* 49
Three Civilians Killed in Sukhumi Shelling *[Tbilisi Radio]* 49
Georgian Troops Shell Abkhazian Villages *[Radio Rossii]* 49
Attempt Made To Assassinate Russian Deputy Commander *[Radio Rossii]* 49
S. Ossetian Leader Concerned Over Russia-Georgia Talks *[PRAVDA 11 Jun]* 50
Police To Take Measures Against Destabilizing Acts *[SNARK]* 50
Deputy Finance Minister Discusses Budget *[SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA 1 Jun]* 50
Gamsakhurdia Supporters Set Up Customs Points *[DRONI 5 Jun]* 51

Press Group Protests Beating of Journalist *[NOVAYA GAZETA Jun]* 52
Human Rights Group's Condemnation *[SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA 10 Jun]* 52

BALTIC STATES

Estonia

Russian Delegation To Discuss Human, Civil Rights *[BNS]* 53
Tallinn 'Failing' To Meet Agreement *[BNS]* 53
'Practical' Help With Russian Pullout Pledged *[BNS]* 53
Government Wants Free Trade Pact With Czech Republic *[Prague CTK]* 54
Parliament Considers Draft Law on Screening Foreigners *[ITAR-TASS]* 54
Minister Condemns Lack of Protection for Farmers *[Tallinn Radio]* 54
Truckers Blockade Narva Border Post, Protest Corruption *[BNS]* 54

Latvia

Latvian Way Announces Nominations for Posts *[Riga Radio]* 55
Names Candidates for Premier, President *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 15 Jun]* 55
Concern Over Forthcoming Russian Army Exercises *[Riga Radio]* 55
OMON Member Not Subject to Immediate Extradition *[BNS]* 56
Finnish Naval Detachment Arrives Visits Riga *[LETA]* 56

Lithuania

Brazauskas Admits Mistake in Recalling Lozoraitis *[Vilnius International]* 56
Brazauskas Visit to France Previewed *[Vilnius Radio]* 56
Polish Defense Minister Begins Three-Day Visit *[Warsaw Radio]* 57
Parliament Rejects Bill Revoking Bobelis' Powers *[BNS]* 57
Parliament Rules To Permit Phone Tapping *[BNS]* 57
Central Bank Chairman Interviewed on Privatization *[LIETUVOS AIDAS 13 May]* 57

Further on Athens North Atlantic Council Session

Kozyrev Meets British Foreign Secretary

LD1106192293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1709 GMT 11 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Vladimir Malyshev and Georgiy Shmelyov]

[Text] Athens June 11 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev met British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Douglas Hurd here today, after attending a session of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council.

The sides discussed the development of the situation around Bosnia and Herzegovina within the context of the Washington program of joint actions to settle the regional crisis. The ministers expressed profound concern over the failure to stop combat operations in Bosnia and discussed specific measures to improve the above-mentioned program.

Kozyrev on 'Frank' Talks With Christopher

LD1106203393 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1915 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Report by ITAR-TASS special correspondents Vladimir Malyshev and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Athens, 11 Jun—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev had a meeting today with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher. They have been taking part in the session of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council (NACC), which is being held here. Our meeting was a routine and regular one, Andrey Kozyrev told an ITAR-TASS correspondent after the end of their meeting. We had an extremely frank conversation, and we discussed, in essence, the whole set of questions being examined by the session of the NACC. Naturally, our attention focused on a Yugoslav settlement. We agreed to jointly work out our approaches to the problem and to reach some concrete decisions.

Here it is important to mention that in this case there is no question of somehow "winning diplomatic points," the minister stressed. The Russian side calls for everything to be done, and even seen from outside, as joint actions.

During my conversation with Warren Christopher, Andrey Kozyrev continued, we discussed questions of bilateral cooperation, in particular the preparations for the visit to the United States by Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and the Tokyo meeting of the G-7 countries. In both of these cases, there are a large number of complex issues as well, mostly of an economic nature.

The main thing, the Russian foreign minister emphasized in conclusion, is that during our meeting both sides confirmed their resoluteness to act "in the spirit of Vancouver" (where the successful Russo-American summit meeting was held) and to tackle all questions along these same lines.

Baltic Ministers Condemn Russian Policy

WS1406145693 Tallinn BNS in English 1536 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Tallinn, June 12, BNS—A foreign ministers meeting of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council in Athens today among other issues also discussed the pullout of Russian troops from the Baltics. The main topics at the meeting were peacekeeping efforts, political instability in Europe, and problems of the former Yugoslavia.

Estonian Foreign Minister Trivimi Velliste, who held a speech at the meeting, focused on security problems in the Baltics. These problems were also mentioned in the final document of the foreign ministers meeting. Velliste pointed out what he called a regrettable state of affairs when a whole year after the adoption of the final document of the CSCE Helsinki conference the deadlines of pullout of Russian troops from the Baltics cannot still be named.

The foreign ministers of Latvia and Lithuania condemned Russia's continuing efforts to link the issue of the troop withdrawal with other topics. The demands by Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania were supported by the foreign ministers of Norway, Denmark and the Ukraine.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev in response pointed at difficulties of socio-economic character arising in connection with the restationing of army troops. He said Russia hopes to get support from members of the NACC in resolving these problems.

In a clear reference to Estonia and Latvia, the Russian foreign minister termed as inadmissible the wishes, "evident in some cases", to establish homogeneous (mono)national states, even, he added, if this is being done "white gloves on".

The Estonian foreign minister also had meetings with his counterparts from Portugal and Greece counterparts. The ministers of the three Baltic countries had a brief meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, a spokesman at the Estonian Foreign Ministry told BNS.

Churkin Meets Karadzic

LD1406121593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1150 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Vladimir Malyshev and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Athens, 14 June—Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaliy Churkin has had a meeting with Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, who is currently in Athens. They discussed the problems of settling the

situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, in particular the decisions taken in this regard at the North Atlantic Cooperation Council session under way in Athens.

V. Churkin is a member of the Russian Federation delegation, which is here in connection with the official visit to Greece of Russian Foreign Minsiter Andrey Kozyrev.

Naval Exercise Held; Iranian Submarine Observes

PM1506091393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jun 93 First Edition p 3

[Marat Zubko report: Iranian Submarine Observes Baltic Maneuvers"]

[Text] Helsinki—The "Baltops-93" naval maneuvers, in which 14 warships from 11 states took part, lasted three days in the Baltic. As announced, these exercises were organized on the initiative of the United States.

The European press describes the maneuvers as historic since this is the first time that they have included seamen from the states of NATO (the United States, Britain, Germany, Denmark, and Norway), the former Warsaw Pact (Russia and Poland), and neutral countries (Sweden and Finland). Lithuania also sent a ship to the exercises, while Latvia and Estonia were represented by observers. A destroyer from Russia that arrived in the exercise area from Kaliningrad took part.

The maneuvers were divided into two sections—military and rescue. The latter envisages warships carrying out rescue operations at sea. Ships from neutral states, which have so far decided against joining in combat exercises, were involved in these in particular.

At the beginning of the maneuvers, when the ships were assembling in a prescribed grid quare near the Danish island of Bornholm, an incident occurred that puzzled the organizers of the exercises, above all the Americans.

An Iranian submarine, which, judging by everything, was going toward the Great Belt, passed the armada of ships. The U.S. command regarded this as a provocation. The Scandinavian press claimed that people in Tehran are well aware that the provision of Iran's Navy with submarines met with a disapproving reception in Washington.

CIS Council of Defense Ministers Meets in Moscow

Shaposhnikov Opens Session

LD1506092393 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0832 GMT 15 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Jun—"Moving to serve Russia, I will not cease to serve the Commonwealth," Air Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, said today, opening a routine meeting of the Council of Defense Ministers of the countries of the Commonwealth. He stressed that Russian President Boris Yeltsin offered him the post of secretary of the National Security Council with consent of the heads of the other independent states.

Having analyzed the missed and existing opportunities for preserving military, political cooperation in the CIS, the commander in chief stated that his efforts in this area have not produced the desired result. The Commonwealth's Joint Armed Forces have not been and will not be created. "I have begun to sense a vacuum and an impenetrable wall around me," Shaposhnikov complained. He said that certain CIS members' lack of readiness for political cooperation is the main reason for the domination of disintegrative trends in the military sphere.

Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov believes that there are several ways to preserve the Commonwealth, such as strengthening the already existing and creating new coordinating bodies, transferring all relations onto a bilateral basis, and finally, a voluntary transfer by member-states of some of their rights to a generally accepted leader, which could be Russia. "Several states have already spoken in favor of this option," he said.

Russian Deputy Defense Minister Boris Gromov, who is being tipped to be the head of the reformed High Command, said today to the ITAR-TASS correspondent: "I will not be commander in chief."

Nevertheless, this possibility is still considered very realistic at the High Command headquarters. Boris Gromov said to journalists that the time has come to reorganize the CIS Joint Armed Forces, and it is good that it will be done in a normal atmosphere. He said that he is glad to see that this is understood in both the High Command and in national defense ministries, including the Russian one. Boris Gromov said that the main reason for reorganizing is that it is impossible to set up the Commonwealth Joint Armed Forces in the near future.

Post of Commander in Chief Abolished

LD1506100493 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0920 GMT 15 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Jun—Participants in a routine meeting of the CIS Council of Defense Ministers today decided to abolish the post of commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces and to institute the post of chief of the Joint Staff for coordinating military cooperation among the states of the Commonwealth [nachalnik Obedinennogo shtab po koordinatsii voennogogo sotrudnichestva gosudardstv Sodruzhestva]. They proposed that Colonel General Viktor Samsonov occupy this post for the transitional period until the end of 1993. This decision should be approved by the Council of Heads of States.

In an ITAR-TASS interview, Viktor Samsonov, who until today has been head of staff of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, said that his main priority will be to widen the integration processes in the area of military and technical cooperation. "We will do everything to strengthen contacts with Defense Ministries of the CIS states," he said. Viktor Samsonov expressed confidence that the Treaty on Collective Security will work, and that cooperation in political, economic, and military areas will increase. He noted that this year there will be no major change in the structure of the CIS Joint Armed Forces staff. His command has been instructed to prepare proposals on the reorganization of the existing structure and to submit them to the judgement of the heads of state.

Russian Deputy Defense Minister Boris Gromov believes that it was the right decision to appoint Viktor Samsonov to the post of chief of the Joint Staff. Commenting on one of the resolutions in the report by Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, Boris Gromov underlined that Russia must not rush into taking upon itself the role of military leader of the Commonwealth.

48.5 Billion Rubles Spent on Black Sea Fleet

LD1106203193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1759 GMT 11 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Roman Zadunaisky]

[Text] Moscow June 11 TASS—Russia and Ukraine have spent 48.5 billion roubles to maintain the Black Sea Fleet from January 1, 1993, through June 1. Russia paid 32.8 billions out of this sum, competent military sources in Sevastopol told ITAR-TASS.

According to the same sources, an order of head of the Ukrainian Navy's Odessa logistics forces Captain Vladimir Orlov denied the Black Sea Fleet Ismail Riverine Cutters' Unit of all types of ration. Orlov officially told the unit commander he will not supply foodstuffs from Ukrainian Navy storages to the unit seamen.

CIS States Discuss Industrial Issues in Kazakhstan

LD1306203393 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1500 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] A conference of authorized government representatives from CIS member countries on industrial issues has been held in Karaganda, Kazakhstan. The main result of this meeting was the signing of an agreement among Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan on setting up the Eurasian Coal and Metal Association. Several of these countries, including ours, decided to organize an interstate joint stock company called Karatau. This has laid the foundation for coordinated cooperation in investment, science and technology, and other spheres.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 15 Jun

LD1506081693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0811 GMT 15 Jun 93

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow June 15 TASS—The morning editions of Moscow-based newspapers highlight the ongoing proceedings of the all-Russia Constitutional Conference.

ROSSIISKIYE VESTI, commenting on the speech made by President Boris Yeltsin at a press conference on June 12, points out that Yeltsin perceived "the sprouts of a future Russian parliamentarism" in the work of the Constitutional Conference, the participants in which, according to the president, are good at finding constructive solutions.

The newspaper singles out Yeltsin's statement that if the Supreme Soviet (parliament) worked as professionally and tactfully, "without political wrangle", Russia would have had an improved legislation already now and reforms would have proceeded much more rapidly.

TRUD, dismissing gloomy forecasts by the intransigent opposition about an "impending coup d'etat", writes that nothing disastrous has happened. Moreover, it turned out that even people with differing political views can productively work if they mean to work, and not engage in rally-type activities, the newspaper points out.

"The Constitutional Conference has not turned into a political battleground where the main thing is to stigmatise an opponent and knock him over defeat an opponent and where strong language is a substitute for arguments", TRUD observes. It seems that participants in the Constitutional Conference followed Yeltsin's call "to seek accord, not triumph".

MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA writes that, judging by comments by participants in the conference, all arrangements promote a purposeful headway in the discussion of a draft constitution. Experts, who analysed the course of the commissions' work, point out that "the conscientiousness of participants in the conference and their intent on the end result even surpassed the organisers' expectations".

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIA criticises the presidential draft constitution, asserting in particular that, although there is a very large number of freedoms proclaimed, there is no clear-cut formula for the freedom to create political parties. The newspaper contends that "promises of freedoms are full of hypocrisy".

PRAVDA, for its part, maintains that the presidential authority is agonising and a draft constitution which is being prepared for Russia is of anti-soviet character.

Foreign Ministry Welcomes U.S.-DPRK Nuclear Talks

LD1506105593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0945 GMT 15 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Aleksandr Krylovich]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Jun—The Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs welcomes the results of the United States-North Korean talks that ended in New York on 11 June and which focused on the problem of nuclear safety on the Korean peninsula, according to a statement circulated today by Russia's foreign policy department.

The foreign ministry emphasizes that the joint statement pledges to refrain from the threat and use of force, to respect each other's sovereignty and not to interfere in each other's internal affairs, to support the peaceful unification of Korea and to apply impartially the full-scale guarantees for the non-nuclear status of the Korean peninsula, which allows room for hoping that one of the serious problems worrying the world community recently will finally be resolved. The DPRK's decision to suspend its departure from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons—in the conditions which have evolved—can be assessed positively. This decision, however, should be regarded as just the first step in the right direction.

In the view of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in the course of further contacts with the United States—similar to contacts with the Republic of Korea and the International Atomic Energy Association [IAEA]—the DPRK should confirm indisputably its participation in the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and, as a consequence of this, fully observe the IAEA agreement on guarantees, including the carrying out of international nuclear inspections. In this context, we support the continuation of the American-North Korean dialogue which is aimed at seeking compromise solutions with a view to a denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. For its part, Russia confirms that it is ready to subscribe to the guarantees of nuclear states with respect to Korea should this question come on the agenda.

Institute Reports on Economic Conditions in DPRK

SK1506095593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0726 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Moscow, June 15 (YONHAP)—North Korean industry has been operating at under 50 percent of capacity for the last few years due to a chronic electric power famine, according to a report issued Tuesday [15 June] by a Russian Research Institute.

The report, on economic conditions in North Korea, was published by the Far East Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Power generation plummetted to a record low 28 billion kilowatts last year, about half the demand of 50 billion kilowatts, and this year's conditions may be just as severe, the report says.

The shortage was primarily due to a decline in the production of coal, the main fuel for power stations in North Korea. The coal production fell to half the amount of the previous year.

Factories operated at 40 percent to 50 percent of capacity on the average and failed to meet the minimum demand of the economy.

In 1992, over 500,000 people were out of work, the report says.

Production of iron and steel products remained at 2 million tons, one-third of annual demand of 6 million tons, oil products stayed at 1.3 million tons against demand of 4 million tons, cement at 4 million tons against 8 million tons, and fertilizer at 3.8 million tons against 6 million tons.

The severe shortage of electricity results in blackouts in Pyongyang apartment complexes for three to four days a week.

People in other areas are forced to live austere lives similar to wartime, with cars banned and bus services between provinces shut down.

The North Korean Government has taken strong punitive actions against people who steal, illegally trade or hoard products made from crude oil.

Saying that North Korea hurriedly pushed for construction of nuclear power plants to alleviate these chronic problems, the report predicts that the communist country will ask assistance from the United States, China or a third country if it can no longer obtain help from Russia.

Foreign Ministry Views Resumption of Arab-Israeli Talks

LD1506093593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0729 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Moscow, 15 Jun—As the Arab-Israeli talks resume today in Washington—in accordance with a proposal by cosponsors Russia and the United States—the Russian Federation Ministry for Foreign Affairs expresses its hope that the participants will display constructiveness and goodwill and will immediately begin agreeing on a compromise approach to the key issues of the substance of a peace settlement. This is contained in a statement released today by the Russian Foreign Ministry. The statement notes our view is that it is essential to focus not on that which divides the parties, but on those issues where opinions coincide, thus developing and expanding mutual understanding. Given such an approach, it is possible to agree on joint outline and other documents possibly during this round of talks. For

this to happen, in our conviction, there is a fair basis in all four areas of discussion in the form of important, crucial even, practical gains achieved during the previous round of talks.

The statement emphasizes that Russia—as cosponsor—is willing to render whatever assistance it can to promote this work, which is orientated toward a specific result, inter alia through greater involvement in the discussion of specific formulae for mutually acceptable decisions. We intend to work in tandem with our American partners, with whom cooperation is ever closer and more effective.

Russia reaffirms its commitment to the aim of establishing a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East on the basis of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, the principles of "land for peace" and equal security for all, upholding the Palestinians' national rights, and also attaining the goals of the peace process as set out in the Madrid peace conference.

Kozyrev Comments on Vienna Human Rights Conference

LD1506063293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0614 GMT 15 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Aleksandr Kuzmin and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Vienna June 15 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev arrived in the Austrian capital on Tuesday [15 June] for an official visit. At Vienna airport he was met by his Austrian counterpart, Alois Mock, and by other officials.

Kozyrev is to attend the current world human rights conference here and to hold talks with Austrian leaders.

The Russian side, naturally, attaches much importance to its participation in such a widely-representative international forum as the world human rights conference, and for various reasons, Kozyrev told journalists.

In response to ITAR-TASS correspondents' questions, he said the main thing is that a number of states, the kind of Iraq [as received], now put forward a "concept of two human rights doctrines". "One of them is 'European', which predetermines our understanding of basic human values, and the other one, the so-called 'Asiatic' concept, treats of some special conditions for the developing states where economic development is the determining aspect while the ensurance of human rights is a 'secondary element'", the minister said.

"We believe that such an approach is inadmissible. In our view, there is only one human rights concept which is sealed in the Charter of the United Nations and in the appropriate international covenants on human rights," Kozyrev emphasised.

"The history of our country indicates," the minister said, "that a departure from this concept by no means guarantees any economic progress". The minister's opinion is that this will be the main subject of discussion at the conference.

"Incidentally, there are also 'modifications' of the problem, when some favour, primarily, the ensurance of the rights of the indigenous population of the country. However, this line is also an evidence of a violation of basic human rights. We observe this in Estonia and Latvia, in particular," he pointed out.

Another subject, which, in the opinion of the minister, must be discussed at the conference is the "peculiarity of the present-day human rights situation": nowadays campaigning for human rights is also a struggle against aggressive nationalism, against ethnic purges and other such phenomena.

"This is why we view the Vienna forum as an extremely topical and very important one to the cause of our present-day internal development. We will uphold the classical form of the ensurance of human rights," Kozyrev said.

Preparations for Yeltsin's Visit to Greece Complete

LD1406222493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2101 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Athens June 15 TASS—Now all necessary conditions for Russian President Boris Yeltsin's successful visit to Greece have been created, according to Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev. The minister spoke before journalists on Monday [14 June] after a ceremony of signing a Greek-Russian agreement during his official visit to Greece.

In the course of Boris Yeltsin's visit to Greece, a political treaty will be signed, and 5-7 various agreements in the sphere of economy and culture. The Russian president's visit to Greece should become a "peak" in the development of relations between our peoples and states, Andrey Kozyrev noted.

In reply to journalists' question, the Russian foreign minister said that he believes that the decision about sending a group of American servicemen to the Republic of Macedonia is a part of U.S. efforts within the framework of the peacemaking activities of the United Nations. This is a step in the right direction, he stressed.

According to Andrey Kozyrev, there is very much in common between approaches of Russia and Greece to the settlement in Bosnia.

In his turn, Greek Foreign Minister Mikhail Papakonstandinou stressed that Greek-Russian relations are developing "very successfully". At present Greece is making preparations for the Russian president's visit to his country. This visit and that of the Russian foreign minister will mean that Greece and Russia are returning

to traditions of friendship and democracy. According to the Greek minister, Greece is coming out for a more active role of Russia on the world arena. He also noted that Greece would promote the development of ties between Russia and the European Community, and its admission to the Council of Europe.

Fedorov Meets Swedish Premier, Signs Tax Agreement

LD1406205793 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1950 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Vukolov]

[Text] Stockholm June 14 TASS—Deputy chairman of the Russian Government, Russian Finance Minister Boris Fedorov being on a one-day working visit to Sweden met on Monday [14 June] with Swedish Prime-Minister Carl Bildt.

The two sides noted that Russian-Swedish relations are developing positively in the interest of good-neighbourliness and cooperation in the spirit of agreements reached during the official visit of Carl Bildt to Russia at the beginning of this year.

Boris Fedorov met with Minister of Foreign Trade Ulf Dinkelspiel. Russian Finance Minister Boris Fedorov and his Swedish counterpart Anne Wibble signed a Russian-Swedish convention to avoid double taxation on incomes. This agreement envisages the creation of favourable conditions for the activity of business circles of the two countries.

Despite the brief visit, it was full of important and interesting conversations, the Russian finance minister told ITAR-TASS. He stressed that the two sides discussed problems linked with the practical interaction between Russia and Sweden.

Karelia Signs Cooperation Agreement With Finnish Province

LD1506091093 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0815 GMT 15 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Zlobin]

[Text] Petrozavodsk June 15 TASS—Heads of regional authorities of Russian Karelia and the Finnish province of Oulu, Sergey Blinnikov and Eino Siurainen, have signed a protocol of intentions on joint projects in the sphere of industry, scientific research, training of personnel and the environmental protection for 1993.

The cooperation between the Russian and Finnish regions with the border between them reaching 400 kilometers, has been going on for two years. A number of joint ventures have been set up, joint operations to protect forests have been carried out and Finnish experts took part in the purification of harmful discharge at the Kostomuksha ore mining plant. Finland has made investments in the construction of a railway and a highway in the north of Karelia.

The joint protocol of intentions provides for the opening of two border check points, the continuation of the construction of the railway Kichkoma-Ledmosero and the construction of settlements along the highway. A resolution was adopted on the joint use of a big sea port in Oulu.

Khasbulatov Call For Fleet Settlement Published

PM1506105593 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Jun 93 First Edition p 1

[Appeal signed by R.I. Khasbulatov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet and chairman of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly Council; date not given: "The Black Sea Fleet Should Become an Arena of Good Neighborliness and Cooperation"]

[Text] Alarming reports continues to come from Sevastopol and other ports on the Black Sea coast. The tense situation around the Black Sea Fleet is continually deteriorating. The change of commanding officers in the Black Sea Fleet and the half-hearted, unproductive measures at the government and presidential levels have not helped resolve the socioeconomic and political problems existing here. The recent visit to Sevastopol of the two republics' foreign ministers also, regrettably, brought no constructive results. The executive authorities have repeatedly warned that that the fate of the fleet must not be trifled with and that the uncertainty of its status and the continually deteriorating material situation of Black Sea Fleet personnel will inevitably lead to further exacerbation of the situation in this region, and, consequently, possibly to a social explosion.

Nevertheless, a solution to this question is being dragged out, which has already today provoked profound dissatisfaction among fleet personnel. More than 200 Black Sea Fleet ships—not only auxiliary ships, but also warships—have raised the St. Andrew's Flag, thereby declaring their intention to be under Russian jurisdiction. And such protest actions are spreading. Obviously, seamen are being forced into this by extreme circumstances: psychological and administrative pressure in connection with taking the oath of allegiance, the deteriorating material situation, the unsolved everyday problems, the uncertainty of social and political status, and the unwillingness or inability of the Russian and Ukrainian Governments to resolve the fleet's fundamental problems.

In this connection I suggest that it is necessary to once again draw the attention of governments, deputies, public opinion, and the mass media to the growing danger of the developments around the Black Sea Fleet.

As chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet and chairman of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly Council, I make an urgent appeal to the Russian and Ukrainian Governments for them to adopt decisive,

urgent measures to solve the crisis. I call on Russian and Ukrainian parliamentarians and all people of goodwill to combine their efforts for the swiftest possible settlement of the crisis situation and to prevent it from escalating into an interstate conflict with unpredictable consequences. The Black Sea should be an arena of goodwill and cooperation and businesslike partnership, not a bone of contention. There is no doubt that a way out of the deadlock that has arisen can be sought only through political means, by negotiating on the basis of international law and the provisions of bilateral agreements, on the basis of historical justice, and the mutual interests of our peoples.

[Signed] R.I. Khasbulatov,

Chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet

Chairman of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly Council

Emergency Chairman Committee on Mission for Abkhazia

LD1406181193 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1716 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Irina Shchegoleva]

[Text] Sochi, 14 Jun—Sergey Shoygu, chairman of the Russian State Committee for Emergency Situations [SCES], has described the operation to deliver humanitarian freight to Tkvarcheli and Sukhumi and the evacuation of people from there as extremely complex. At a news conference at the operational headquarters, he said that a large number of different units, ministries, and departments are taking part in it.

Two transport ships of the Black Sea Fleet will go to Novorossiysk at around 1000 tomorrow morning, with the agreement of the presidents of Russia and Ukraine. Also tomorrow, Sergey Shoygu said, the loading work will start in Sochi seaport. It is planned to convey 218 tonnes of humanitarian freight to Tkvarcheli and 220 tonnes to Sukhumi.

Both freight vessels will go to Sukhumi, from where the humanitarian aid will be taken by truck to the people of Tkvarcheli. The land trip is more than 100 km long. The operational group of the SCES plans to make several trips to Tkvarcheli. From the moment the vessels leave the Sochi harbor the whole operation should take about 72 hours.

Sergey Shoygu said that all the work related to coordinating the conditions for carrying out the action with the Georgian and Abkhazian sides has been practically completed.

Answering a question from ITAR-TASS about the results of talks held in Ochamchira between members of the SCES operational group headed by Sergey Kudinov, and the command of the Abkhazian armed formations operating near Tkvarcheli, Sergey Shoygu replied that only a preliminary agreement has been reached with the Abkhazian side to allow the convoy from Ochamchira to Tkvarcheli, and details are being worked out now.

Ending the news conference, Sergey Shoygu said that the action has already cost 670 million rubles.

Reorganization of Transcaucasus Border District Eyed

PM1106135993 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 9 Jun 93 p 8

[Unattributed report: "Border Moves"]

[Text] A meeting between Sochi City Administration Chief Nikolay Karpov and Major General Anatoliy Parakhin, first deputy commander of the Russian Border Troops, Lieutenant General Ivan Korobka, deputy commander of the Border Troops in charge of rear services, and Major General Viktor Zemtsov, commander of the Transcaucasus Border District, discussed problems connected with turning the Transcaucasus Border District into the North Caucasus Border District. The headquarters will move from Tbilisi to Stavropol and the border guard detachments will be stationed on a line linking Derbent, Vladikavkaz, Nalchik, and Sochi. A military camp is to be constructed near Sochi and there will be permanent guard posts for the border troops in the mountains. The Russian government has made foreign currency available for the provision of border security facilities and is guaranteeing funding in rubles.

Problems Foreseen in GATT Membership Possibilities

MK1506092093 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 15 Jun 93 p 1

[Natalya Kalashnikova report: "Russia's Talks With GATT. Joining General Agreement Will Not Be Easy"]

[Text] Access to world and West European markets, which Russia needs so badly, is impossible without its having full membership in GATT. This was said by Boris Yeltsin in the ceremony in which Russia applied for GATT membership, held 11 June in the Kremlin. The application was received by GATT Secretary Arthur Dunkel, who promised to consider Russia's request at GATT's next session on 16 June.

According to the established GATT practice, between filing an application and joining the organization there is a period of approximately one year, devoted to consultations with the prospective member country. The main requirement for granting a membership is that the applicant must be "a market economy."

If GATT admits Russia as a full member, a number of trade restrictions imposed on Moscow by EC countries and hindering the conclusion of a Russian-EC agreement will be revoked.

There are serious doubts, however, that this will happen without problems. On 1 July, Arthur Dunkel will be replaced by Peter Sutherland (see KOMMERSANT-DAILY of 11 June) and, according to observers, the arrival of a new secretary general may influence the terms and the very course of the process of decision-making in Russia—despite the hope expressed by Yeltsin in the Kremlin that the new GATT leadership would be able to make a positive decision regarding Russia's membership by the end of the year. Currently, GATT experts believe that this procedure may take as long as several years: The EC, which actively campaigned for Sutherland, classifies Russia as a "centrally planned economy."

This is why it cannot be ruled out that during consultations with GATT, Moscow will have a hard time proving the contrary. Russian experts are also skeptical. In particular, Denis Kiselev, Russia's representative at the World Bank, believes that talks with GATT will be difficult for both sides and that completing them by the end of the year without exerting any pressure on GATT will be impossible.

There is also another school of thought saying that Russia has missed the best opportunity to apply for GATT membership. According to Georgiy Gabuniya, deputy foreign economic relations minister, Russia had the best chances of doing this in February when Arthur Dunkel was on a visit to Moscow. Now people in the Foreign Economic Relations Ministry believe that the talks with GATT may take at least two years.

Commentary Views Continuing Civil War in Angola

MB1506075293 Moscow Radio Moscow in Afrikaans 1700 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Vladislav Chernukha commentary]

[Text] Disturbing reports continue to come out of Angola. The civil war rages on and the chances of further dialogue between the government and the main opposition movement, UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola], appear very slim.

One gets the impression that UNITA, despite all its nice words on a political settlement and peace, does not really intend to return to the negotiation table—at least not until it has had the opportunity to press home its own conditions.

According to claims by UNITA leaders, the movement's armed forces have already achieved important victories; about 80 percent of the country is controlled by them. One can believe this when one takes into account reports by UN observers. The government forces control mainly large cities, and even then, not all of them. The opposition has occupied four of the 18 provincial administrative centers, and is threatening a few more. They have also taken the diamond fields and one of the oil refining centers, Soyo.

But the defeats meted out to the government forces does not mean they are on the point of being overrun or that UNITA will gain control over the whole country. Even during the years when it was receiving assistance from the United States and South Africa, UNITA never succeeded in achieving that. These two countries are now working for peace in Angola and have cut off assistance to UNITA.

Of course, UNITA could receive assistance from other sources, but the 16- year civil war showed how unrealistic it was to count on total military victory. Therefore, it is highly unlikely that UNITA will achieve its main goal through the continuation of the war. It would be better to return to the negotiation table where a compromise settlement awaits them, prepared by the Portuguese, U.S., and Russian mediators. Moscow's view is that the legitimate government of Angola should be actively supported, and we would welcome any steps aimed at stabilizing the situation in that country.

Agreement Signed With Mexico on Scientific Cooperation

LD1506064893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0635 GMT 15 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksey Kravchenko]

[Text] Mexico City June 15 TASS—The National Council on Science and Technology of Mexico and the Russian Academy of Sciences have signed a five-year agreement on bilateral cooperation in the field of researches. A press bulletin of the Mexican National Council distributed here on Monday [14 June] says that the agreement, in particular, provides for an exchange of scientists and post- graduates of both countries. The agreement was concluded during a visit to Mexico of a delegation of Russian scientists headed by Deputy Minister of Science and Technical Policy Ivan Bortnik.

Some 300 sientists from countries of the former Soviet Union, especially from Russia and Ukraine, work in Mexico by contracts, ITAR-TASS was told by a representative of the Mexican National Council. The Mexican authorities intend to invite a few hundred more highly skilled specialists on whom they pin great hopes in the sphere of forming national research cadres and developing the latest technologies and materials. Such a policy made it possible in recent years to suspend a tendancy for rendering lifeless academic institutions as a result of Mexican sientists' drain to U.S. research centres.

Constitutional Conference

Yeltsin Meets Republican Heads, Regional Leaders

LD1506102993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1009 GMT 15 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Jun—Russian President Boris Yeltsin is currently holding a meeting in the Kremlin with heads of administration of krays, oblasts, and autonomous entities. Subsequently he will meet the heads of republics. The agenda for these meetings, to which journalists have not been invited, has not been announced. It can be assumed, however, that the progress of the Constitutional Conference is the most likely subject of discussion.

Plenary Session Set for 16 Jun

LD1506113493

[Editorial Report] Moscow Mayak Radio in Russian at 1000 GMT on 15 June carries a three-minute report by correspondent Vera Shchelkunova from the constitutional conference.

Shchelkunova says that the meeting between the president and heads of administrations of the krays and oblasts of the Russian Federation ended 30 minutes ago. A participant, Vladimir Fedorovich Chub, head of the Rostov Oblast administration, told the correspondent that the work of the heads of administrations, the federative system in general, and representation in the federal parliament were the issues discussed.

Shchelkunova asked Chub whether the president supported the proposal that "republics are sovereign states within Russia and krays and oblasts are state territorial formations." Chub replied: "Well, that was not said. There was no final decision made during our discussion today, but it was supported in principle as an idea. We are now going to be putting the finishing touches to it today and tomorrow, prior to the plenary session, and I think we will find a common wording."

Shchelkunova added: "What Vladimir Chub told me was confirmed in an interview for Mayak by Sergey Shakhray, coordinator of this group. He even went further by saying that agreement had been reached on this score. The president, however, still has another meeting today, in an hour's time at 1500 with the heads of republics." She says in conclusion: "Vladimir Shumeyko told me that a plenary session of the Constitutional Conference has now been definitely set for tomorrow, though the starting time—in the morning or at 1600—is to be determined any time now."

Yeltsin, Khasbulatov Agree on Joint Work

LD1506132493 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1100 GMT 15 Jun 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] There have been fresh developments in the work of the all-Russian Constitutional Conference. Up to now all the argument has been over two versions of the new basic law: parliament's and the president's. But today the idea of compromise and working toward agreement emerged. We have received the text of a draft directive by the Russian president and the chairman of the Supreme Soviet on the establishment of a joint working group to complete work on the preparation of a single agreed draft of the Russian Constitution.

Yeltsin Aide: New Constitution 'Transition' Document

LD1506121893 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] An adviser to the Russian President, Sergey Stankevich, sees Russia's new constitution as a document of the transition period. In Stankevich's view, the idea of holding new parliamentary elections seems to be getting hold of the country's constitutional assembly and, once elected, a new Parliament will endorse the presidential draft of Russia's new Fundamental Law.

The Constitutional Conference has meanwhile focused on the federalism of the Russian Republic. The regions and republics of the Russian Federation are discussing the equity of their rights and opportunities with no help from the president. The powers vested in the Russian president are another discussion point. According to Stankevich, the conference has in principle adopted the idea of strong presidency, but it feels the country's constitution must specify when the president is privileged to disband the parliament.

Khasbulatov, Soviet Chiefs View Constitutional Process

LD1506110993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1030 GMT 15 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Jun—Russian Supreme Soviet Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov and soviet leaders today discussed the progress of the constitutional process. They met in camera at the White House.

"We exchanged views on the work on a new draft constitution and coordinated our stand for the future," Karelian Supreme Soviet Chairman Viktor Stepanov told ITAR-TASS. "Most speakers supported the demands of those who insist on further participation in the Constitutional Conference called by the president," he stressed.

"We decided that once a single draft constitution has been finalized it will be examined by local legislative and representative authorities, and the agreed version will be thrown open to nationwide debate," Viktor Stepanov added. If the draft is approved by the overwhelming majority of constituent parts of the Federation, it can be submitted to the Congress of People's Deputies or a nationwide referendum, he said.

Constitutional Conference Continues 14 Jun

TV Reports on Proceedings

LD1406114793

[Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 1000 GMT on 14 June broadcasts in its "Vesti" newscast a three-minute report by correspondent D. Pugacheva on today's work of the constitutional conference.

She says the five working groups are dealing with various issues today. Representatives of the federal power bodies approved an amendment concerning the grounds for disbanding the parliament and impeaching the president; the latter can take place only if the president is involved in criminal activities. The group defined the Russian Federation as a sovereign, democratic, federal state with a republican government.

Pugacheva says the group representing political parties and movements suggested that a declaration on Russian federalism be drawn up. The declaration should outline the principles of the federal structure based on the equality of rights of the subjects of the Federation.

Pugacheva's report includes a recorded interview with Konstantin Borovoy, leader of the Economic Freedom Party, who says the main issue on the agenda is the procedure for adopting a new constitution. Borovoy says his party believes that the conference itself should adopt the declaration and the constitution as soon as possible instead of shifting the responsibility onto the president.

Burbulis Outlines Work

LD1406130693 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] The Consitutional Conference in continuing its work in the Kremlin. During a lunch break Gennadiy Burbulis, president of the nongovernment public organization Strategy Center, answered journalists' questions. Our special correspondent in the Kremlin Georgiy Sovtsov reports.

[Sovtsov] Gennadiy Eduardovich gave several assessments of what is going on within the walls of the Kremlin. According to him, the fruitful form of cooperation which has been achieved here creates considerable prospects for the adoption of the draft constitution which will be compiled.

[Begin Burbulis recording] Evidently, by using combined efforts, we have found the only form in the conditions of the present realities in Russia which retains the energy released by the 25 April referendum, thanks to the political will of reformist Russia. This creates the prerequisites for the most legally correct way out of the current situation.

Second, the initiative today is completely in the hands of the president, the democratic reformist orientated section of the deputies' corps, and the intelligentsia. This is the case when I consider that these three elements are equally influential on the processes taking place in Russia today. [end recording]

Further Report on Progress

LD1406143793 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1421 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[Text] Moscow June 14 TASS—Representatives of commodity producers and entrepreneurs within the Constitutional Convention of Russia spoke today in favour of abolishing the post of "speaker general" in the Russian Parliament. In their opinion, in the future federal parliament houses should be separated to the extent, totally excluding their joint sessions. [as received]

The Commission of Commodity Producers, according to their coordinator Sergey Alekseyev, as before takes the lead in pace of discussing amendments to the draft constitution as far as all other working groups of the forum are concerned.

The section of federal bodies of power approved broadening rights of the House of Federation within the future parliament until the announcement of the date of the president's election by it.

Representatives of the federation's subject section proposed following wordings: "No person except a citizen without any foreign citizenship, who shall have attained to the age of 35 years or no more than 65, been fifteen years a resident within the Russian Federation, and not restricted on the right to be elected, shall be eligible to the office of president".

Tense work continued in sections of local self-rule and political parties.

Russian presidential legal aide Yuriy Baturin told ITAR-TASS that the Constitutional Convention, at its present pace of work, has all the chances of working out an agreed text of the fundamental law either by June 16 or 18.

Yakovlev Cited on Work Completion

LD1406145293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1422 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Krylovich]

[Text] Moscow June 14 TASS—The constitutional convention has completed approximately one-third or even three-fourth of its work and rather well, coordinator of the group of representatives of federal bodies of power, Doctor of Law Aleksandr Yakovlev said on Monday [14 June].

At a press conference Yakovlev emphasized that when people of different view points, origins and convictions discuss specific legislative norms based on universally accepted values of democratic state and society, it is wonderful, how they succeed in agreeing on the essence of main problems, although differences in particular cases remain.

According to Aleksandr Yakovlev, it is hardly possible that all groups of the constitutional convention will be able to complete their work on June 16. The work in the group representing the interests of political parties and organizations is, in particular, progressing rather slowly. The proposed plenary session, which is scheduled to be held on June 16, will not be conclusive, he said. After the work of the convention their participants intend to adopt a declaration. But the constitutional convention will not end its work, as certain groups will continue their activities for a month, he said.

Then the working group of the constitutional convention will sum up all the achieved results in one draft. Only when the draft is ready, it will be put up for the final approval or disapproval of the constitutional convention, Aleksandr Yakovlev concluded.

Federal Structure Discussed

LD1406202993 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1800 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] The ninth day of work at the Constitutional Conference has come to an end. The issue of the state's federative structure proved to be the most difficult one for the forum's participants. This was acknowledged by representatives of the five sections which held a news conference in the Kremlin. In the words of Marina Kudimova, representative of the parties and movements section, her colleagues decided to preserve the traditional division of Russia into republics, krays, and oblasts in the text of the basic law. They, like members of the working group of commodity producers, support the equality of rights of the Federation's subjects.

Heated debates took place at the conference with regard to the government's status. For example, the section of the Federation's subjects passed amendments to the draft constitution, saying that the prime minister is nominated by the president and approved by the Federal Assembly. For his part, the head of the Cabinet of Ministers submits candidates for ministerial posts who are also approved by the president. The president has no right to nominate twice the same person for the post of premier. This amendment was proposed by the section of the federal bodies of power.

In the opinion of representatives of the sections of the Constitutional Conference, the work at the forum is generally highly professional.

President, Vice President, Speaker Viewed

LD1406205493 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 14 Jun 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The participants of the Constitutional Conference debated today articles of the Constitution determining procedures for the resignation of the government and for the vote of confidence, as well as the role of the president and the council of the Federation. The group of representatives from republics, krays, and oblasts rejected by a majority vote an amendment introducing the post of vice president, and gave a rather broad definition of the presidential power, having limited his term in office to four rather than five years.

Producers and entrepreneurs voted today to abolish the post of parliamentary speaker. They believe that in the future council of the Federation, the chambers should sit separately.

Tomorrow the initiative group will submit to the participants of the conference the text of the law on elections, as well as some documents about it. At the same time the draft of the law on elections will be studied by the Supreme Soviet.

Lukyanov Cited on Constitutional Conference

PM1406125593 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jun 93 p 2

[Interview with A. Lukyanov of the Russian All-National Union, by Aleksandr Golovenko; place and date not given: "Novo-Ogarevo Laurels Give Them No Rest"]

[Text] As we know, the Russian All-National Union has nominated Doctor of Juridical Sciences Anatoliy Lukyanov as a specialist in constitutional law as its representative to the Constitutional Conference. But the president's servants did not allow the last chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet into the Kremlin. The start of this painstaking, stage-managed performance has shown that any dissent at it is not only not envisaged but will be vigorously halted. Nonetheless, what would you tell the meeting's participants if you were to speak? That was the question which began our conversation.

[Lukyanov] When the Russian All-National Union asked me to be its representative at the conference I immediately warned them that I have no illusions and that my political opponents would most likely prevent me from taking part. Nonetheless I prepared myself and would say without fail that the president's draft constitution cannot be adopted as a basis. The most cursory analysis

is sufficient to see its aim—to strike against the guarantees of civil rights, particularly in the sociopolitical and economic spheres, and substantially to restrict real democracy.

And so the draft provides for the breaking of the Soviet form of the power of the people and the abolition of soviets in the center and locally. And that is the rejection of centuries-old Russian traditions of public discussion, a drastic restriction on the representation of the population's working strata in the organs of power, and the curtailment of monitoring of the system of management by the people and their elected representatives.

[Golovenko] But another upheaval has been imposed on society—this time on the specious pretext of the need to revise the "obsolete Constitution." In your opinion, can Russia really not do without that today?

[Lukyanov] Of course, one can speak of the desire for absolute power. But let us blow away the verbal husk and look more deeply. There is no "constitutional crisis," the country is experiencing a very profound socioeconomic crisis into which it has been plunged by the government of junior scientific workers under the president's leadership. Deep in the economy it is easy to make out a struggle between the undermined, but still extant, socialist relations and the "uncontrolled" capitalism which is being forcibly introduced. Actually, the entire point of the "constitutional process" the president has undertaken is to legitimize the "place in the sun" for the super-rich, the nouveaux riches, and to consolidate their rule over the main mass of disinherited people brought to the edge of survival. That is precisely the truth of which the organizers of the Kremlin event are afraid and the president's entourage has done everything to prevent the representatives of the opposition from mounting the rostrum. The most ludicrous pretext was thought up for banning my participation: It would allegedly prevent my compulsory presence at the State Committee for the State of Emergency trial. But after all it is well known that an intermission has been announced there and no one knows when the hearings will resume...

[Golovenko] The corridor nature of this meeting is obvious. Could you not recall how preparation proceeded for the 1977 Constitution in an era of "totalitarianism and complete absence of democracy," so to speak?

[Lukyanov] At the time I was working as a member of the Constitutional Commission secretariat. Over the four months during which the country discussed the draft of the new Constitution we received approximately 400,000 comments and suggestions. One way or another approximately 140 million people and over 50,000 local soviets voiced their opinion. As a result amendments were made to 118 of 173 articles.

[Golovenko] Some observers, Anatoliy Ivanovich, have already noted a certain similarity between the present "constitutional process" and the Novo-Ogarevo process...

[Lukyanov] From my viewpoint many of today's innovations, including constitutional innovations, are painfully similar to everything which Gorbachev did. Yes, the Novo-Ogarevo process in which the leaders of the republics took part also bypassed the legal organs of power—the Congress of USSR People's Deputies and the country's parliament. It was aimed at elaborating a draft Union Treaty which contradicted the USSR Constitution and the people's will expressed at the 17 March 1991 referendum. It was in Novo-Ogarevo that the tendency toward setting presidential power against the congress and the Supreme Soviet appeared most graphically. And it was fueled artificially, fanning national separatism and leading to the Union's destruction. In brief, the laurels of Novo-Ogarevo are giving the present Russian president and his entourage no rest. That is why I am convinced that the "presidential" constitution will merely intensify the threat of Russia's collapse.

[Golovenko] Even the radio channels which sympathize with B. Yeltsin have stressed that, by again attacking the "omnipotence of the soviets," he has in fact come out with anticonstitutional appeals to change the social and state system in the country. Do you not believe that the Constitutional Court must have its important say, as it did after the attempt to introduce special rule on 20 March?

[Lukyanov] Obviously anticonstitutional statements have become the norm not only for the president but also for his entourage and numerous supporters. Sometimes it costs them nothing to state that the existing Constitution is no more than "a roll of toilet paper." In any other country there would be an immediate sanction for such insults against the Fundamental Law. I agree that in this situation the Constitutional Court could have its say, although it is already quite split.

[Golovenko] Anatoliy Ivanovich, does the attempt to enshrine absolute rule in the new constitution not remind you of something from the recent past?

[Lukyanov] It does. I could recall one of Saltykov-Shchedrin's heroes who, on taking up a leading post, immediately elaborated a draft "on governors' exemption from the laws." And the present president is concerned for this "exemption." But everything goes far deeper. About five to seven years ago a play entitled "Look Who's Here!" was on in Moscow. At the start of our talk I drew attention to the political debut of the class of new owners. This is the homegrown grasping comprador bourgeoisie which the president represents. And this person "who's here" begins to say: "I want to legitimize my power. I want the constitution and all power structures, including presidential structures, to serve me, to defend my interests against the main mass of the disinherited people. I want the Army and all the power ministries to be on my side." They no longer conceal that. They write, announce, and speak of it openly: "We have established our power in this country and we do not intend to give it away." I repeat, the draft

of the "presidential" constitution is in fact the embodiment of this capital's claims.

[Golovenko] As far as we know from the opposition leaders' speeches they are afraid the meeting in the Kremlin may become some kind of legislative organ.

[Lukyanov] There are reasons for that. After all, the organizers have already stated that it is planned to have the draft initialed by the components of the Federation and to approve it and submit it for adoption "as a whole." If the conference begins to be transformed from a consultative forum at which experts make recommendations into a kind of constituent organ opposing the legal power—the congress and the Supreme Soviet—the opposition will have every grounds for speaking of a new attempt at an anticonstitutional state coup. In that case the congress might very well rely on Article 121/[figure indistinct] and examine the question of dismissing a president who by strong-arm, violent methods is pushing the country toward changing its state and social system.

[Golovenko] How do you see the way out of the present constitutional deadlock?

[Lukyanov] World experience shows that constitutions are not adopted under conditions of confrontation in society. Their adoption requires a certain stability in social relations, clarity in the country's aims and tasks, and the accumulation of "bricks"—the sum of laws which can become the foundation of the Fundamental Law. All these prerequisites do not exist in Russia. That is why in my view in the interests of preventing social upheavals and retaining the country's integrity it is essential to introduce a moratorium on any constitutional experiments until, for instance spring 1994 and to proclaim, as promised, 1993 as the year of the economy. The time has not yet come to implant "a constitution of developed capitalism."

Trade Unions Support Continuing Conference After Break

LD1406021793 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0100 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Representatives of Russia's trade unions support the idea of continuing the work of the constitutional conference after a one-month break. In their opinion, the organizers of the constitutional conference have found an effective way for working on the draft of the basic law and conducting a broad exchange of opinions among the country's main political forces on all topical issues of the day.

Political & Military Issues

New Democratic Preelection Bloc Issues Statement

PM1506083593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jun 93 First Edition p 2

[Own Information report: "Election Campaign Begins"]

[Text] At the moment, society's attention is riveted upon the battles being waged in the constitutional field. For all the severity of the situation, the problem will be resolved, and today it has become necessary to think about tomorrow. To be precise—about the elections coming up in the not too distant future. Will society succeed in making the right choice, having learned from its own mistakes? It is vital to seek an answer to this question today, and many political forces have already undertaken vigorous actions.

A number of republic social organizations together with a group of eminent political figures issued a Statement on the Formation of a Preelection Association of Voters—Bloc of Reformist Forces. The statement asserts that the Russian people have made an historic choice in favor of freedom, a competitive market, and democracy. It has confirmed this three times—in June and August 1991, and 25 April 1993. However, there are forces in society which are prepared to unleash a bloody terror and civil war rather than acknowledge this choice.

The statement stresses that the president chose the only correct path of legally formulating the people's will, a path which will permit the continuation of the policy of reforms: To adopt a democratic constitution, and to hold parliamentary elections on its basis. As early as in the fall of this year, the people of Russia must elect professionals to parliament to resolve the most complex economic and legal questions.

After signing this statement, they proclaimed the beginning of the formation of the democratic preelection bloc, and urged voters to support it.

"Rejecting extremism of any description, we appeal to the intelligentsia and entrepreneurs, to hired labor and peasants, to parties, movements, and social organizations, to regional associations of democratic forces—to all who are aware of the hopelessness of returning to a compulsory-distributive economy and a repressive political regime. We appeal to all true patriots of Russia, for whom the love of the Fatherland does not reside in inflaming militant nationalism, but in striving to render Russia rich and prosperous, and in reviving spirituality, charity, and respect for the traditions of our forebears."

The statement was signed by V. Bashmachnikov, for the Association of Private Farm-Holdings and Cooperatives; V. Tikhonov, for the League of Cooperative Workers and Entrepreneurs; K. Truyevtsev, for the "Human Chain" Alliance of Defenders of a Free Russia; L. Ponomarev, for the "Democratic Russia" Movement; P. Filippov, for the All-Russian Association of Enterprises Under Privatization and Private Enterprises; Al. Surkov, for the "Democratic Russia" faction; S. Yushenkov, for the "Radical Democrats" faction; V. Smirnov, for the "Military for Democracy" movement.

The statement was also signed by V. Shumeyko, S. Filatov, A. Chubays, A. Kozyrev, M .Poltoranin, A. Makarov, B. Fedorov, M. Zakharov, Ye. Gaydar, M.

Molostvov, A. Yakovlev, D. Likhachev, S. Kovalev, E. Pamfilov, G. Burbulis, G. Kasparov, and D. Volkogonov.

Burbulis on Formation of 'New Political Structure'

LD1406162193 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] President of the new Humanitarian and Political Studies Center, Strategy, Gennadiy Burbulis, has announced the formation of a new political structure within the Alliance of Democratic Forces.

Speaking in Moscow, he said the new party was designed to help save the energy of the April referendum and preserve the political will of the reformist forces.

Mr. Burbulis said the strategic goal of the party, whose interim title is the "Russian Union of April 25th", was to win regional support. Mr. Burbulis and his followers are planning to tour industrial parts of Siberia and the Urals.

On the ongoing constitutional forum in Moscow, he described it as a unique and productive form, which was in full compliance with the referendum results.

Fedorov Urges 'Resolute, but Cautious' Steps

PM1106102193 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 9 Jun 93 p 3

[Article by Boris Fedorov, deputy premier and finance minister: "We Can Break the Back of Inflation If We Strike Together"]

[Text] No doubt about it, inflation is a headache that is exhausting the whole of society. Nobody needs to be told what its features are and how it manifests itself. Visit the store regularly over a two-week period and, even if you are nowhere near grasping even the basic principles of economics, you will have no questions left to ask.

Constantly rising prices, many goods unavailable to the majority of the population, long-term investment in production impossible—all this is bound to worry the government. Furthermore, both the president and the Council of Ministers chairman describe the fight against inflation as the key item in day-to-day policy. Whereas increased steel or machine tool production is unlikely to have a direct effect on the interests of people at local level, a cut in inflation of even 10 percent would immediately affect the living standard of everyone in the country. The second aspect of the issue is that no government can expect people to reaffirm their confidence in it if over a period of 2-3 years it fails to curb the inflation that is eroding both the population's deposits and investments in the econony.

Is There a Magic Formula?

Hard times, as a rule, are an excellent breeding ground for all manner of "projects of the century." The Finance Ministry is literally inundated with proposals on treatment for the disease. They also get into the press, causing agitation in society. The recipes vary, but they all come down to the indiscriminate pumping of large amounts of money into industry, which will then, of course, pack the store shelves with cheap goods. And that will lead to stabilization of prices and an improvement in Russians' lives.

Another popular topic is that of fixing the dollar rate. As if you can give notice of an economic recovery by setting a ruble-dollar ratio at a point someone finds attractive.

I will not dwell in detail on these theoretical postulates. All I will say is that putting them into practice would not only mean the complete failure of the reforms Russians have voted for, but would also jeopardize the very existence of the national economy and, above all, its industrial sector.

I very much doubt whether there are any magic solutions that would halt inflation just like that and lead the economy out of the crisis. At the same time, I do not claim to be a pioneer and discoverer of new worlds. The methods of combating inflation are pretty well-known, and the task is to apply them properly, taking the particular Russian situation into account, of course.

I will just highlight the key points.

Credit and monetary policy: The prosperity of any state depends on investments in the economy. Last year they amounted to more than four trillion rubles [R]. As of 1 March 1993 enterprises' credit debts amounted to nearly R9 trillion. Bearing in mind that the bulk of these enterprises are state enterprises, they cannot be expected to pay their debts promptly. So their debt becomes a common debt, making a smooth transfer to the budget deficit. The fight against inflation and the growth of the budget deficit are irreconcilable opposites: The one precludes the other.

If it appears to some, like the newspaper PRAVDA, that this is all due to intrigues by Western theorists, I can cite the experience of China, which has done a great deal in accordance with these recipes and has managed to significantly limit the printing of "empty money."

Tax concessions and subsidies: As I see it, the main achievement of the agreement signed with the Central Bank on economic policy this year is the point whereby the Central Bank will not engage in giving direct credit to regions and enterprises. This means that all actual subsidies and concessions will go through the budget, forming a real, rather than hidden deficit.

Who will gain, one wonders, from the fact that the government is subsidizing purchases of U.S. and Canadian grain abroad, spending three or four times more on it than on our own producers? Gradually reducing import subsidies by just 40 percent will make it possible to keep at least R1 trillion for the budget.

Currency policy: It is perfectly obvious that any administrative fixing of the dollar rate will do nothing for the economy. It will only make the disease more deep-seated, in fact. The ruble must continue to "float free," as it does today, in relation to other currencies, until the financial situation improves and inflation is significantly reduced. Not three nor even six billion IMF dollars will be enough for us to be able to stabilize the ruble in present conditions. Any investments in the currency market can only lead to the bleeding of the budget and can change nothing at the macroeconomic level.

The considerable expansion and deepening of the actual currency market is a different matter. I, for example, do not know how to sell $1,000 today by means of a noncash transaction without resorting to all manner of dubious conversions.

Our Friends Are Becoming Increasingly Expensive

My position may appear unorthodox to some people, but I very much welcome the former USSR republics' introduction of their own monetary units. I believe that there is no ruble zone in the full sense of the phrase, since there is no proper means of agreeing on credit, monetary, and budget policy and currency transactions. There is no proper customs union either, and this is allowing Russian strategic goods to quietly seep across foreign borders for resale.

The fact that a number of states of the former USSR are continuing to use the ruble as a monetary unit does not change the basic situation. And we have different views about what rubles they are using. I think they are Soviet rubles. What we have are actual Russian rubles. That is why there is a big rate difference when they are transferred to other republics.

The inevitable question in this connection is: Can Russia still act as a donor in relations with CIS countries? It seems to me that the effectiveness of interest-free and open-ended industrial credits for close neighbors—according to Western experts' estimates these, together with subsidies through prices, exceeded $18 billion in 1992—is by no means in our country's national interests. I have doubts to about the return on the R860 billion transferred to the CIS republics in the first half of 1993.

The Longest Journey Begins With The First Step

But there is one significant plus in the present situation: There is greater certainty. The referendum enabled the government to continue the course chosen by the people. What is needed now is resolute, but cautious steps.

First of all, it is necessary to stabilize the budget and curb spiraling inflation. There is a reassuring trend. Whereas the first week of January took inflation to an annual rate of 2,500 percent, in April, for instance, it was half that. The $3 billion of IMF special credit could be a useful supplement, since it it is not inflationary. Our objective is to reduce inflation to five percent per month in December 1993.

But I still give priority to the need to adopt a decision imposing a moratorium before the end of the year on additional expenditure not allowed for in the budget year. Without these curbs our financial stabilization will still have a big question mark against it. I would describe it as an undoubted success for the government if we manage to keep the budget deficit within 10-11 trillion at the end of the year, taking inflation into account.

It is very important immediately to settle matters pertaining to the relationship between the budgets of the center and the Federation members. If the central bodies have a tax authority, then the regions must have the same. The new Constitution must enshrine certain principles of financial stability to make sure no one rocks the state's financial foundations again.

We have come to a mutual understanding with the Central Bank on the development of the currency market and we are proposing a significant expansion of it. From 15 July nonresidents will be able freely to sell any amount of foreign currency and from 1 September they will be able to buy it as well. From the beginning of June the Central Bank has to switch to quoting the ruble exchange rate daily.

The decision to sell 100 percent of enterprises' currency earnings is unlikely to have the required effect, in my view, and will only contribute to the "flight of capital" abroad. Following the bankruptcy of the Foreign Economic Bank and other unpopular measures, enterprise directors are rather reluctant to believe the new promises.

In the foreign trade sphere the government intends to go down the road of liberalizing its terms. Export quotas for various products will be eliminated in stages and centralized export volumes will be only one-third of the current level next year.

Mutual relations with the CIS countries are a special matter. We are willing to engage in multifaceted economic cooperation, but not to the detriment of Russia's interests. There has been some activity already. For instance, the government is abandoning the practice of granting industrial credits and is switching to the drawing up of actual interstate credit agreements that provide guarantees of repayment.

Difficult work lies ahead for us Russians. It is going to take some years to get the country out of the very profound economic crisis. But we have a blueprint and the reform mechanisms and methods have been identified. Most important, there is an awareness of the need to take this path. I believe that by concentrating our efforts we can break the back of the main enemy—inflation.

Grachev Censured in Unlawful Dismissal Case

PM1106154393 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 10 Jun 93 p 4

[S. Turchenko report: "Minister Raises Hands. The Case of Kandalovskiy Versus Grachev"]

[Text] At the very height of the legal investigation of Colonel Vladimir Kandalovskiy's action against the Russian Federation defense minister for unlawful dismissal from the Armed Forces, Army General Grachev pulled an unexpected stunt.

As has already been reported in our newspaper on 29 May 1993 in a letters page entitled "Still the Same Ears," on 11 December 1992 the defense minister dismissed Colonel Kandalovskiy, chairman of the coordination committee of the Northwest Group of Forces Council of Officers' Assemblies and a senior-level official of the Northwest Group of Forces information and public relations department, from the Armed Forces as unfit to serve. The officer brought an action at the Moscow garrison's military court. Captain of Justice Aleksandr Ababkov, who chaired the proceedings, conscientiously and scrupulously investigated the substance of the case. The following emerged.

A massive and completely unprepared withdrawal of Russian troops from the Baltics began in the fall of 1992. People were more or less being turned out onto the street. Many families remained in the Baltic countries to face the vagaries of the local authorities. This caused a storm of protest among officers. As chairman of the coordination committee of the region's officers' assemblies, Kandalovskiy more than once requested the command to find a civilized solution concerning the procedure for withdrawing the troops. Measures were not taken, however. Then Kandalovskiy together with other coordination council leaders Lieutenant Colonels Ye. Milashchenko and V. Shitsle appealed directly to the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet. The problem was studied carefully there and the withdrawal was suspended.

However, the "rogue" officers' initiative elicited a completely inappropriate, indignant reaction from the defense minister. In violation of all the existing regulations Kandalovskiy was dismissed. The same punishment was also meted out to Milashchenko and Shitsle.

A Russian Federation Supreme Soviet deputies' commission worked in the Baltics 16 through 20 February of this year. It studied, among other things, these officers' dismissals.

R. Khasbulatov, chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet, sent a letter to the defense minister on this subject. In particular, it noted: "The dismissal was carried out in the most flagrant violation of existing legislation and represents an arbitrary decision on your part. On the eve of the Seventh Congress I had a meeting with these officers concerning the problems of withdrawing troops from the Baltics, and I consider that as a whole they are right in raising the question of social protection for servicemen... I hope that you make the right decision and reinstate in the Army the servicemen you have dismissed. The law, which should be mandatory for all including the defense minister and his deputies, must be supreme in the state."

So what did the minister do? He did not consider it necessary to put right his "mistake" but came out with a letter in reply which accused the officers of more or less all the mortal sins. Including accusing Kandalovskiy of leaving his unit without permission for 10 days and even of having links with foreign intelligence!

A leave pass signed by Kandalovskiy's immediate superior was attached to the case file, showing that there is no question of his having left his unit without permission. A reply to an enquiry to the state security organs affirming unequivocally that Kandalovskiy's "links with foreign intelligence" exist only in the minister's imagination was read out at a session. The officer's positive qualities and excerpts from the degree commissions' decisions were attached to the file. Thus it emerged that Grachev had either deliberately distorted the facts and misled the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet chairman, or blindly carried out someone else's bidding, relying on false information from those close to him.

When all this became clear in court, the defendant's side took an adjournment of four days. You can only conjecture as to the subject of the deliberations at the ministry. But on 8 June the proceedings began with a statement by Major General V. Dzyuba, the defense minister's representative in court, which perhaps astounded everybody present. Grachev, clearly realizing that he had lost on all fronts, had decided to concede defeat without waiting for the legal contest between the sides to be completed. Dzyuba read out an extract from the defense minister's Order No. 144 of 8 June 1993 saying that he was repealing his order of 11 December 1992 dismissing Colonel Kandalovskiy from the Armed Forces as unfit to serve. The same order offered Kandalovskiy a discharge from the Armed Forces on grounds of personnel cutbacks and the granting of all allowances due to him by law plus monetary compensation for enforced "leave of absence." The "victim" also was informed that an order had been prepared for him for an apartment in Leningrad.

Having received guarantees in court that all these conditions would be honored, Kandalovskiy decided to call off the action as he was satisfied with the legal investigation's progress.

Nevertheless the court delivered its verdict. It resolved to send the defense minister a written report on his systematic violation of the law by dismissing the officers from the ranks of the Armed Forces (we should recall the case of Stanislav Terekhov as well as those of Lt Cols Milashchenko and Shitsle, whom we mentioned, and of

others). I believe that this will serve as a lesson to a minister who likes to rattle the saber and—most important—as a serious basis for correcting "mistakes" with regard to other unlawfully dismissed officers, without having to wait for new trials. All the more so since I myself know personally of no fewer than 10 servicemen who have already submitted or are going to submit claims to the courts for the same reason. As they say, may God help them.

Officers Caught in Attempt To Sell Strategic Material

MK1106111693 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No 24, 11 Jun 93 (signed to press 10 Jun) p 6

[Unattributed report: "North Fleet Silver"]

[Text] The Russian Federation Defense Ministry military counterintelligence section has circulated a statement to the effect that military counterintelligence operatives, in close cooperation with personnel of the Prosecutor's Office and the Administration for Combating Organized Crime under the Arkhangelsk Oblast Internal Affairs Administration, has cut short an attempt by a number of Northern Fleet officials to sell to commercial organizations 300 kg of technical-grade silver—a strategic raw material. According to Vyacheslav Terekhov, on the staff of the Northern Fleet counterintelligence section, the silver had been extracted from storage batteries used in some combat-designation goods. The stolen silver costs nearly 180 million rubles at government prices. Criminal proceedings filed by the Arkhangelsk Oblast Prosecutor's Office have been instituted against a number of senior officers—some of the ranking ones among them had direct access to the goods—as well as against some civilians. The military counterintelligence staffers declined to give more detailed information, suggesting that the journalist await official statements.

Border Patrol Ships To Use St Andrew's Flag

LD1206061293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0603 GMT 12 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Roman Zadunayskiy]

[Text] Moscow June 12 TASS—On an order issued by Colonel-General Vladimir Shlyakhtin, commander of the frontier forces of Russia, St. Andrew flags are to be hoisted on all Russian border patrol ships at 9.00 local time to replace the naval border flags of the former Soviet Union.

The flag-hoisting ceremony has been timed for the Independence Day of Russia and the anniversary of the formation of the frontier forces of the Russian Federation.

From now on, under this flag, Russian border guards will patrol state frontiers and the exclusive economic zone of Russia on the seas, rivers and lakes.

'Zvezda' Ejection Seat Plant Faces Uncertain Future

OW1406105593 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel and Orbita Networks in Russian 1845 GMT 8 Jun 93

[Yelena Golubeva report from the "Utro" program's "Cupboard Full of Secrets" feature]

[Text] We are in the territory of the Zvezda enterprise which, until quite recently, was very strictly secret. The world learned about it exactly four years ago when on 8 June 1989 a MiG-29 crashed at the Le Bourget Air Show near Paris. The pilot ejected at low altitude and not only survived, but did not even suffer serious injury. And so the West, at long last, recognized the fact that the most reliable ejection seats are produced near Moscow at the Zvezda enterprise.

Here are some statistics. The survival rate of pilots, without injuries I might add, using our ejection seats on the Su-25, Su-27, and MiG-29 aircraft has been 100 percent. For the U.S. F-16 this figure is 83 percent. Dummies and their equipment are also produced here at the Zvezda enterprise. The Zvezda enterprise has approached the U.S. State Department and proposed joint Russian-U.S. tests of the ejection seat as well as flight tests. The Pentagon was silent for two years, but finally agreement was reached and the tests have begun. Zvezda workers told us that the Americans are pleased, but the workers were not since the pay was too low.

As a matter of fact, Vice President Rutskoy ejected from an aircraft in a seat like this back in Afghanistan. The Zvezda enterprise is unique when measured against the highest world standards. This is the only place where life support systems for pilots, space suits, aerial refueling systems, crash helmets, and a lot of other products, which could be called associated equipment used in space or at great altitudes, are developed as an integral whole. It is incredibly interesting and endlessly promising, but the pay is low and of 3,500 workers, one third have already left. [video cuts to show Golubeva interviewing general designer Gay Severin]

[Begin Severin recording] We are trying to be optimistic, but despite our hopes, if we look at things from a material aspect, we see a drain on personnel, of young workers. [end recording]

The contract with the Americans on joint testing of the ejection seat is an attempt by the Zvezda enterprise to survive. The Americans would not mind buying our seats, an example of the highest technology which until recently was the target of spies. Now some things can be received for almost nothing. An American dummy such as this one, which is full of electronic devices, costs $250,000. Ours is cheaper,but it is just as good. The training of a military pilot in the United States costs $8 million. He is one of a nation's elite in any country. So it

is to everyone's benefit to put the pilot back in the cockpit without any injuries. [video shows Golubeva talking to Severin]

[Begin recording] [Golubeva] Your clients today are also in a difficult situation.

[Severin] Our clients, particularly those from the defense complex, are in a difficult situation and in fact we practically have no orders or very few orders from the defense industry.

[Golubeva] Do you see any prospects for improvement, will you survive?

[Severin] Yes, we must survive because we are the only enterprise of this kind in Russia which engages in research, development, and the production of these systems. [end recording]

Another way to survive is through conversion. The Zvezda enterprise has developed and so far built six ecologically clean machines for eradicating the Colorado beetle. A strong air stream blows the beetles off the plants in one direction after which it is easy to collect them right off the ground, just like that.

Emergency medical equipment is also being developed here using the large amount of accumulated experience gained in working on problems of human survival and activity in extreme conditions. Things were always invented and developed here, test models were even built, but series production was carried out at plants scattered all over the country, some of which are now in foreign countries. Today the enterprise must develop its own capacities and seek out new partners. [video cut back to show Golubeva talking with Severin]

[Begin Severin recording] We cannot rely on the state since it has no well-developed conversion programs and we have no idea whether the government will help us tomorrow or not. [end recording]

Of course an enterprise like this can produce vegetable slicers, but surely it would be better if it produced space suits. So that is all for today, but next Wednesday we will reveal one of the commercial secrets of the Zvezda NPO [scientific production association].

Supreme Soviet

Khasbulatov Speech Urges 'Consensus'

PM1406160193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Jun 93 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report of speech delivered by Supreme Soviet Chairman Khasbulatov at 9 June Supreme Soviet session: "Democracy Without Opposition Is Plutocracy. Speech By Ruslan Khasbulatov at Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Session"]

[Text] At the beginning of his speech at the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet session Ruslan Khasbulatov recalled the actions of parliamentary leaders following the Supreme Soviet's decision for the parliament and the Supreme Soviet chairman to take part in the Constitutional Conference. I personally saw this as a very serious and constructive trend in the Supreme Soviet's activity and as a very serious incentive for action in a spirit of agreement, Ruslan Khasbulatov said. Instructions were given to the secretariat to contact the president's chancellery and to propose that it send telegrams inviting Supreme Soviet deputy chairmen to take part in the conference sections' work. I myself, the parliamentary chairman explained, intended to take part in the plenary session.

On Friday evening a meeting was held with the leaders of republic, oblast, and kray soviets at which it was clearly suggested that the chairman of the parliament deliver a report at the plenary session on his main views.

The president's chancellery was notified of this request. It was not possible to reach Yeltsin himself by telephone.

Invitations were not sent to the deputy chairmen. Then I suggested, Ruslan Khasbulatov continued, that Yuriy Mikhaylovich Voronin travel with me. But he laughed and said: "They will not let me in, just as they did not in that famous incident." (A reference to the crude action taken by the president's security guards in not allowing the first deputy chairman of parliament to take the rostrum 9 May).

The parliament chairman informed Sergey Filatov, leader of the president's administration, that he had been instructed to speak at the plenary session, and said that the speech was peace-loving and couched in a spirit of agreement.

So I naturally got ready and gave prior warning with all the means at my disposal that I would certainly be addressing the plenary session. Naturally, as I listened to the main speaker, I got the strong conviction that the chairman of parliament should speak. If I had not spoken, I would have had no moral right to continue to exercise my functions as Supreme Soviet chairman, Ruslan Khasbulatov stressed. And there was not even a shadow of a doubt about my intention to cooperate seriously with the Constitutional Conference. But it was not to be.

The parliamentary chairman went on to set out the main ideas in his speech.

The problem troubling our society boils down to a simple question. It is the question that was asked around three years ago by Solzhenitsyn in his work "How We Are To Rebuild Russia." [Kak nam obustroit Rossiyu]

Of course, the new constitution will play an important part in rebuilding Russia. This law is a social contract and affirms civic peace and harmony.

Most members of both the Constitutional Commission and the Supreme Soviet have been guided by this concept of the essence of a constitution. We have forged

ahead through difficult debates in parliament and other auditoriums both in the capital and in our country's regions over almost three years.

When we submitted a draft constitution for discussion by the Sixth Congress of People's Deputies, it seemed that the president shared this concept. He made no particular attempt to pressure the Congress—although, you will recall, even then there was a parallel draft constitution written by the same people responsible for the current draft—Alekseyev, Sobchak, and Shakhray. Having ratified the concept and general provisions of the draft constitution, we realized that it was incomplete and continued to work on it. Unfortunately, reality did not allow this work to be completed.

Why was this? Many reasons can be cited. Some of them we can agree with. For instance, we can talk about the role played by the Constitutional Commission chairman and the Supreme Soviet chairman. We can talk about the reluctance of the Supreme Soviet, the Congress, and certain deputies to adopt the constitution... But two factors strike me as decisive.

The first is the lack of any fundamental value guidelines in society's political, cultural, and spiritual life, and the denial of moral and ethical principles in economic reform, which leaves people who are not united by a common idea defenseless in their everyday lives.

The second is the imposition of confrontational tactics by the top executive authorities. These tactics date from the Sixth Congress of People's Deputies—which was important in every respect. That Congress incorporated the Federation Treaty, which, incidentally, was drawn up here at the Supreme Soviet. The adoption of the Federation Treaty at the time halted the collapse of the Russian Federation. But the danger was great, since the process of the Union's collapse was inevitably transferred to Russia. And the Union Treaty problem was genetically linked to the Federation Treaty problem. By concluding this treaty we halted the process. The outline and main provisions of the draft constitution were adopted at the Sixth Congress.

Unfortunately, it was not this creative aspect of the Sixth Congress that the public focused on. Their attention centered, first, on our entirely justified criticism (now admitted by everyone) of the government's unreasonable economic policy and, second, the failure at the time of our attempts to strengthen parliamentary control over the government's activity by somewhat reducing the president's powers.

I recall that the main reason why those attempts failed was unanimously said to be the $24 billion which were allegedly going to be given to "a Gaydar-led government." Regrettably, this cynical deception strongly influenced certain wavering deputies at the time. As a result, the government and the executive as a whole began to get used to a system where there was no control over and no sanction against any decisions which produced negative results. Confrontational style became the norm, and blackmail and threats turned into tools in the struggle against parliament and representative organs at local level. This style hardened as the country's economic position deteriorated. That is the basis of the confusion and the contradictions.

In this connection I would like to draw parliamentarians' attention to the fact that no economic stabilization is foreseen in the immediate future. Believe me, reassuring words and forecasts about this—from whatever quarter—do not square with the truth. Specialists, experienced economic managers, private entrepreneurs, and domestic and foreign experts agree that the economy is entering a stage of collapse and a situation where the very elements of production forces will self-destruct. This stage will be marked by the total disappearance of any opportunity to create competitive, market prerequisites, and the national economy will be transformed into weak, regional economic enclaves operating on a barter basis. The new government has managed to do virtually nothing in the past six months to correct the mistakes made in 1992. It has actually compounded them.

Needless to say, under these circumstances there is a strong desire to avoid a discussion of dangerous subjects, so as to ensure that no dangerous ideas emerge in society. This is something that both the executive system and those parliamentarians who thoughtlessly supported and still support the destructive course and are preventing the Supreme Soviet and the Congress from making the necessary amendments want to avoid. The same logic underlay the 25 April referendum and the free interpretation of its results. This is also why tough press censorship has been introduced, and why repressive aspects of domestic policy have been stepped up—something that was seen particularly clearly in the 1 May tragedy. It is why dissidence even by allies, let alone the opposition, is being suppressed.

But there is no democracy without dissidence, or without an opposition. Democracy without opposition is plutocracy.

With regard to the so-called constitutional crisis... Under such difficult circumstances—the interweaving of a general political, economic, social, cultural, and moral crisis—and in the context of the profound national depression brought about by the collapse of the state and national humiliation, and at a time of interethnic conflicts, when people have lost faith in the state and their leaders, and when citizens could quite frankly hardly care less about old and new constitutions, we have seen the emergence of a constitutional crisis. The idea of a Constitutional Conference emerged.

I recall that after serious consideration and discussion we made the right decisions about our full and constructive participation in this conference, while specifying that it was to be of a consultative, advisory nature.

The Supreme Soviet chairman went on to note a number of fundamental provisions in the president's report to the Constitutional Conference.

First—the report does not stipulate a unified conceptual line. There is no unified blueprint regarding the fundamental ideas that should imbue the country's fundamental law. For instance, the conceptual provision about the separation of powers, federalism, local self-government, and the presidency are not sufficiently well-argued and are therefore unconvincing. It is noticeable that Western models have been copied with no regard for the geopolitical and multiracial features and historical traditions of the Russian Federation and Russia's peoples.

We are actively looking for better ways to organize the Russian Federation, and this is an entirely natural process, the main speaker noted. It was in the course of this process that the Federation Treaty was elaborated, and the Declaration of the Rights of the Individual and the Citizen was adopted. Both these documents became part of the existing Constitution, and this was a major step forward. They also became part of the Constitutional Commission's draft. So it is hardly right to talk of the constitutional crisis as an objective phenomenon that is allegedly holding reform back. We need merely be concerned to ensure that the overall work on the drafts is productive and that everyone's opinion is respected. Only in this way will the constitution our peoples need be elaborated.

Particular attention should be paid to the fact that the president's draft seems to use the Federation Treaty to set the krays and oblasts at loggerheads with the republics. Painstaking analysis confirms precisely this fact. This approach is damaging to the very idea of a new federation.

The report contained many critical barbs about the legislature. The rebukes about its two-tier nature can be accepted. After all, we have said from the very outset that a two-tier parliament is not the most successful of inventions. But we were not the people who dreamed it up. But if we are doing things constitutionally, we should wait for the appearance of the corresponding fundamental law or a decision from the top authorities.

The report also contains the claim that parliament is protecting corporate interests. But this claim is unsubstantiated. The Supreme Soviet has acted and is acting as a legitimate forum for social interests. Parliamentary procedures are applied on the basis of the traditional principles of legislative organs' activity, where voting serves as the usual means whereby decisions are adopted...

The president's report contained the provision that the soviets are incompatible with democracy. But the peculiar thing is that there are no other organs of people's power or representative authority in Russia. And the president has not even found a name for the new organs of representative authority. I believe that this provision displays not just cynicism but a misunderstanding of the principles of the separation of powers and the system of people's power. Along with plain disrespect for those who alone have the right to approve or disapprove the draft constitutions—the sessions of republic, oblast, and kray soviets.

I would like to note two other points. For the sake of preserving his own legitimacy the president should not be acting in the way that he is acting. After all, he was elected under the 1991 law. You and I passed that law in this place. Second, the reference to the legitimacy of the 1917 Constituent Assembly elections seems simply absurd. That, incidentally, is the same notorious assembly about which there were more jokes than there are about all our Congresses put together. That assembly was one of the causes of the 1917 revolution (that too should be remembered by the president's current speech writers); along with the influence of Rasputin, plutocracy, corruption, the omnipotence of the civil service, and the authorities' endless promises it led to the October coup.

The president's report correctly spoke of the organic link between the new statehood and the law as a reflection of the common interest. But it is claimed without any justification that there is currently no law in the country and that the people's will is not being implemented. And the legislature is allegedly to blame for that.

But, after all, the past three years have seen the adoption of dozens of new laws that have been prompted by new social needs and formed by new social relationships supported by the population. And the fundamental laws were adopted following representations from Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, the former Supreme Soviet chairman himself. So why is it artificial to contrast the body of laws that is in the making with some kind of abstract law? Does not this famous legal dualism conceal a desire to reject parliamentary laws and use only the so-called "presidential law"? There is food for thought here, you will agree.

In general the report contains many dangerous, dubious, and ambiguous provisions which the main speaker at the Constitutional Conference may not even have suspected himself.

The report is contradictory in arguing the need for resolute action to establish the primacy of law in society and for "resolute steps toward the law." This is done in the style of Vyshinskiy [prosecutor in Stalin's show trials]. If you read very closely, the characteristic of the law is first cited as being the "guarantee of the justice, freedom, and natural human rights as a common interest reflected by the authorities rather than being imposed by force." But at the same time there is the rather threatening opinion that "law without force is meaningless." This argument is not an accurate reflection of the essential nature of the law in general. And this kind of understanding of the law (even with the rider that "force without the law is tyranny and a tragedy for the people") is indisputably wrong. Such "mistakes" are not made out of illiteracy or negligence. They are an built-in element

used to justify a certain kind of tyranny and dress it in a legal framework. This is something we have already been through in our history.

That is to say, in this instance the role of coercion in establishing law and order is being exaggerated. But force and coercion are by no means the only guarantees of the triumph of legal norms in the establishment of effective law and order. If existing procedures were respected along with parliament and parliamentarianism as a whole, these would be far more effective than attempts to establish law and order by violent action.

The idea that the "current representative organs have been elected on the basis of Soviet electoral law and, consequently, are the successors to authorities which seized power by force" is a very exotic one. The entire logic of the development of Russian statehood is being turned on its head! If we are talking about the seizure of power, we can see today (and the only people who cannot see this are those who do not want to) that the executive is acting aggressively. In particular, it is seizing new powers in the sphere of legislative activity. Of course this is impermissible, and of course it should stopped. But, tell me—in what way is the Russian Federation president's election law better than the Russian Federation people's deputies' election law? It too was adopted in the Soviet era and passed by the RSFSR Supreme Soviet.

The contradictions in a number of other provisions are obvious. Thus, the constitution is denied its role as the guarantee of the country's unity and the lives of its citizens. At the same time, the president himself declares himself to be one of the guarantors of constitutionality. In other words, the president seems to take precedence over the constitution.

The principle of the separation of the courts from politics has not been proclaimed. The Federation Treaty remains a foreign body in the draft constitution. Suddenly concepts are introduced that are used to solve problems within the CIS—the single ruble zone, an economic area. These, incidentally, raise fears about the country's integrity. Why should such concepts be included in the constitution?

And I think it no accident that certain Federation components are deciding to appeal to the Congress, the Supreme Soviet, and the Constitutional Court to examine those provisions of the report which raise doubts from the standpoint of constitutional legality.

Ruslan Khasbulatov went on to dwell on the reasons for the pointedly disdainful attitude shown toward parliament. The political inexperience (or naivete?) of a number of deputies and Supreme Soviet Presidium members, including Supreme Soviet Deputy Chairman Nikolay Timofeyevich Ryabov, have played a part to a considerable extent. They have failed to grasp the meaning of the game being imposed on them under an alien scenario. The perfidious idea has been put about that the Supreme Soviet chairman has adopted a conservative stance, is toeing the line of the forces of regression, and wants no compromise, that the president will not cooperate with him, and that it is necessary to meet the president halfway and adopt a progressive and innovative position...

A dual aim was being pursued: So as to avoid an allegedly inevitable split in the Supreme Soviet, Ryabov was meant to either force the Supreme Soviet chairman to cross the constitutional border line and "burn" [szhech] him, or to lead a considerable number of breakaway deputies into "unconstitutional areas." These games are nothing new to me or to most deputies. We know about the various out-of-town conferences, agreements, and promises of jobs, apartments... But I have always believed and still believe that there are people here who are devoted to their voters and to the fatherland. I am simply sorry for those who try to pick squabbles when times are hard. And I would also note, esteemed colleagues, that if we had all carried out our duty as deputies and done so in accordance with our constitutional obligations the 5 June situation would not have happened at all, in my view.

We have a historic chance to carry out genuinely democratic transformations. Why are we submitting to a desire to revive dictatorship—this time anticommunist rather than communist? After all, we know that all dictatorships are alike. They flout individual rights, persecute dissent, fear the truth, use lies as a tool in the political struggle, and declare war on people's power and parliamentarianism. Is it not the case that all this is now becoming relatively visible in our state practice and in the political regime that is taking shape?

We too are to blame for this. We have a mercenary way of working. People have been right to criticize me and many others. It is sometimes the case that two or three committee chairman prevent the passage of laws protecting parliament, its rights and prerogatives, and envisaging criminal liability for violation of the prerogatives that are natural for all parliamentarians around the world. Under U.S. law, for instance, a presidential security guard who tried to block the speaker's way, or people who insulted the work of the general prosecutor or a deputy, would receive a prison sentence of 5-12 years.

But our somewhat criminal style is becoming the norm for top officials. If the Supreme Soviet really felt itself to be a parliament, it would long ago have relieved a number of ministers of their jobs, ensured the investigation of cases, and looked into a huge number of abuses. For instance, how and when did the real estate and other property belonging to the CPSU Central Committee and Union authorities—including buildings, installations, health farms, and leisure centers—disappear? Why did the president's security service and his "courtiers" start using this property? Why is the president's chancellery handling foreign economic operations? And, to be blunt,

can we really fail to be alarmed by the ugly action taken against the Constitutional Court chairman?

To move to the events of 5 June. Owing to the organic inability of its organizers to engage in creative and conciliatory action, the idea of a Constitutional Conference is, to be frank, no longer topical. The representatives of the Federation components—and they should be the main participants in the conference—have been offended. Around 60 representatives of oblast, kray, and republic soviets and certain Supreme Soviet chairmen have suspended their participation in the conference and resolutely protested its arbitrariness and wilfulness. Sessions have been held and delegations recalled in a number of oblasts. Conditions have been set for their return.

What are these conditions? First and foremost, the president must abandon the false thesis that the soviets are incompatible with democracy. Moreover, conditions must be ensured for the full-fledged participation of the Supreme Soviet and the Constitutional Commission in the conference; **all** the draft constitutions must be examined; the exclusively advisory nature of the conference must be recognized; and the constitutional procedures for adopting the constitution as laid down by the existing Constitution, the Supreme Soviet, and the Congress must be observed.

The 10 republic leaders who visited the Supreme Soviet talked about these conditions. They have proposed that the Supreme Soviet return to the conference, but on the above terms.

Thus, there is nothing to be happy about. Everything that has happened is yet another blow to the state's prestige. Society is seeing before its very eyes the erosion of the foundations of power and a rapidly spreading opinion that it is incapable of coping with problems—many of which, incidentally, have been caused by the authorities themselves. We will have to make a decision about further participation in the conference, having previously exchanged views on the subject. There are different approaches and different assessments.

The country is indeed at a crossroads. This is not a discovery: Everybody feels it. But I think that the dilemma facing the country is not just a choice between capitalism and socialism. Far more acute is the issue of the relationship between "traditions and progress" and "prerevolutionary and revolutionary." Some people would very much like to replace this highly complex issue (in practical, theoretical, methodological, and philosophical terms) with that of the relationship between "reactionary-restorative trends in the Supreme Soviet and progressive-Westernizer trends in the executive."

False premise! But to those who like to portray things in terms of black and white it can only be said that you can fool the people some of the time but you cannot fool the people completely and finally.

This is what the question is: Do we want yet another revolutionary discarding of all Russian tradition and a declaration that this tradition is at an impasse? Or are we prepared to move down the evolutionary road, retaining the best of our fathers' and grandfathers' experience? If we desire the former, then OK, let us adopt a constitution that is blatantly detrimental, semi-dictatorial (and therefore temporary). If we want the latter, then we must adopt a constitution founded on the idea of positive convergence, the idea of a synthesis of all the best that world experience has accumulated.

The problem is a serious one. Yet it is obscured, and everything is depicted as a struggle between "reactionaries" and "progressives." Although society does, of course, contain elements of the one and the other.

I would also like to say that no force in the country is capable of imposing its will on the remainder of society. Even by force. Force will be met by force, however it is employed and whoever is prepared to employ it.

While recognizing all the imperfection of the present parliament, I would nevertheless like to emphasize again and again that this imperfect parliament represents our last chance to resolve the question of the country's future without an acute confrontation. Everyone should accept and understand this.

What, specifically, ought to be done? The situation compels the Supreme Soviet to act vigorously, purposefully, and even combatively. It is necessary to demonstrate in fact that the Supreme Soviet and the deputies know not only how to adopt laws but also how to stand up for the representative power itself. And we are not fighting on our own behalf—we are fighting for the genuinely democratic development and transformation of society in the people's interests. We ourselves, together with the Federation components, must galvanize the work on the new constitution.

Regarding possible attempts to complete this process outside parliament, in my view we should issue a special statement that this would be tantamount to a coup d'etat. This position is fully shared by the Russian Federation components.

Today the Constitutional Conference is working somehow or other, but it is working nonetheless. We have a choice.

First: As parliament decided at its last session, the Constitutional Commission can continue its work on a draft constitution.

Second: It can take part in the work of the Constitutional Conference. If it is going to take part, it should clearly support the proposal put forward by the Federation components. I have already mentioned these.

It is up to you to decide, esteemed Supreme Soviet members. But I think that, regardless of the results of the Constitutional Conference's work, future work on the draft of the new constitution should be carried out in a

rigorously constitutional way. The main point at issue is the fact that the draft constitution should be ratified by the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet, the Supreme Soviets of the republics, and sessions of kray and oblast soviets and the soviets of autonomous formations and national okrugs. And I mean at sessions of these bodies. So-called initialing by representatives of the components should be ruled out. Because what does that mean—representatives of the components?

In the last instance the Congress adopts the constitution. Or it decides to submit it to a referendum.

We must firmly pursue a course oriented exclusively toward a consensus method of preparing and adopting a new constitution and resolutely reject any desire to impose a constitution through pressure tactics.

The Supreme Soviet chairman went on to urge his colleagues to step up the work of the Supreme Soviet and commissions and committees. Some of them are not working at full steam, or else they are trying to avoid doing any work altogether. Organizational and cadre measures clearly need to be taken.

He also called for an end to the "rows and squabbles" which are undermining the Supreme Soviet from within. There is a whole package of laws that need to be adopted, for which the Congress has given direct instructions. But work on these laws is being slowed down by committees and commissions. The adoption of legislative acts relating to the mass media should not be postponed any longer. This is needed at all levels. At the same time we need to bear in mind that many of the mass media are literally being pressed. With their help we also need to adopt normative acts ensuring real press independence.

The main speaker proposed holding a conference on the most pressing issues in the Supreme Soviet in the near future: issues such as regional budgets, the fight against crime, conversion, and agrarian reform. He called for constructive cooperation with the government in resolving urgent problems and tasks.

In the final analysis, Ruslan Khasbulatov said, the political hawks want to crush not just parliament and the soviets but also the government, whose freedom and opportunity for maneuver have been substantially restricted. It is clear that, together with members of the government, the Supreme Soviet should hold a session at which six-monthly results should be discussed objectively, based on specific facts and without political accusations, and measures should be outlined to normalize the situation.

Regional Affairs

Khasbulatov Message to Chechenya Published

PM1506110593 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Jun 93 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Appeal by Ruslan Khasbulatov to Citizens of the Chechen Republic"]

[Text] Ruslan Khasbulatov, chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet, has appealed to citizens of the Chechen Republic: "Dear compatriots, citizens of the Chechen Republic! The tragic events which occurred in Groznyy 5 June 1993 sent a tremor through the hearts of all honorable people, not only in the Chechen Republic, but also in Russia. They led to the deaths of people, who were victims of a regime which has tried and is trying to hold on to power with the aid of bayonets and fear. It is to be regretted that the man who organized the bloody reprisals against his fellow countrymen still bears the title of Russian general. I hope that justice will give its assessment of this tragedy and the culprits will receive deserved punishment.

"This day has become a black mark in the republic's history. The tears in the eyes of mothers will not dry quickly. Together with you, I sorrow for those who were killed, and express profound condolences to their families. I believe that the tragic June events will not drive the people to their knees. You, dear compatriots, will manage to uphold your right to a dignified existence, and to elect authorities which will truly express the interests of the people.

"Accept once more my sincere sympathy."

Mari-El President Favors 'Compromise' Constitution

PM1506084593 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 10 Jun 93 First Edition p 1

[Interview with Mari-El President Vladislav Zotin by Yelena Musatova; place and date not given: "Our Microphone in the Kremlin. Firm Ground Needed Underfoot"]

[Text] We asked Mari-El President Vladislav Maksimovich Zotin to share his opinion of the work of the Constitutional Conference and events surrounding it.

[Zotin] Two ideas of the new Constitution are currently slugging it out—the parliamentary and presidential ideas. In my view, there should be a third—the idea of a compromise, a rapprochement of positions. And the regions, not Moscow, will have the most important say. The constitution itself is after all being created not for Moscow and its politicians, but for all Russian citizens. Everything will depend on how the prepared draft is assessed at local level.

[Musatova] In that case what role would you assign to the present conference?

[Zotin] The Constitutional Conference is of course of a preliminary nature. Its main task is to submit a unified draft for republic, kray, and oblast soviets to discuss. That is why we have gathered together.

Another important detail is that the conference has given a definite fillip to the work on the fundamental law. I am happy with that since a new constitution is essential as

the basis for further progress. But imagine my having one foot in one boat and one in another. Your feet go different ways. And then you have to row and go somewhere. That is why, as long as we have no ground underfoot, we will have disintegration and we will make no progress.

[Musatova] What key problems do you have to resolve?

[Zotin] There are three main issues. The first being the economic base, that is the new constitution's recognition or nonrecognition of private ownership, including land ownership. It is time that we clearly made up our minds at last where we are going. Otherwise no reforms have any meaning.

The second is the question of the form of government: Is Russia to be a presidential or a parliamentary republic?

As a president I would like to work with a professional parliament. That kind of parliament, operating on a permanent basis, is necessary, in my view, at republic, kray, and oblast level. Moreover the Federal Assembly as proposed in the draft is the Supreme Soviet.

However, soviets are probably no longer necessary at rayon and village level. It is better to have a village headman there—which is incidentally what we have been trying to do in our republic.

Third, we must define the regions' rights. Complications could emerge here because some of them—I mean the republics—will demand too many and others—krays and oblasts—will want the same. You can understand the latter and, as a result, I think their status will be enhanced. In the socioeconomic sphere at first, and then as life dictates.

[Musatova] What is your opinion of the conflict situation that arose on the first day of the conference's work?

[Zotin] Well, things like that happen in the heat of the moment. I take a calm view of that. When my neighbors got up to follow the Supreme Soviet chairman, I stayed where I was. Not because I support any particular side. It is just that the main thing for all of us now is tranquillity, patience, and professionalism.

[Musatova] In your view, when could work be completed on the fundamental law?

[Zotin] Everything depends on the discussion at local level. There are different people there too, after all, and they all have their own interests. It will also take patience to reach accord and at least close the gap between positions.

I think that a draft constitution may be submitted to a congress—as current legislation envisages—by the fall. Legislation cannot be violated—we want to build a rule-of-law state. Many sins have already accumulated in this respect.

N. Ossetian Residents Say No Coexistence With Ingush

LD1106210693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1923 GMT 11 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Valery Shanayev and Mikhail Shevtsov]

[Text] Vladikavkaz June 11 TASS—A meeting of North Ossetian Prigorodnyy region residents and head of the North Ossetian Supreme Soviet Akhsarbek Galazov, Prime Minister Sergey Khetagurov, members of the parliament presidium and the government, the republican security council, ministries, departments and representatives of the temporary administration was held today on request of the residents.

Residents of the Chermen settlement said it is impossible for Ossetians and Ingushes to live together in the region.

The North Ossetian heads assured they are doing their best to eliminate consequences of the tragedy in the Prigorodnyy region, stabilize the local situation and comprehensively solve the refugee problem.

Meeting participants visited several settlements of the region.

When speaking to residents of the Oktyabrskoye settlement, Galazov stressed "an attempt of forced return of Ingushes to settlements in Prigorodnyy region may result in another bloodshed". He refuted rumors, claiming a draft decree of the Russian president is being prepared to introduce the federal rule in the North Ossetian Prigorodnyy region.

He said an agreement has been reached with the temporary administration on joined patrols of peace-makers and the local law-enforcement bodies in the restricted area of the state of emergency regime.

Farmers To Refuse Contracts for State Deliveries

PM1106135193 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 10 Jun 93 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Peasants Give Warning"]

[Text] In the run-up to harvest work, kolkhozes and sovkhozes in several rayons in the Stavropol region have declared their intention to refuse to conclude contracts to deliver grain and other produce to state resources at economically unjustified prices. The directors of 11 farms in Stepnovskiy Rayon have sent a letter has been sent to Yuriy Goncharenko, chairman of the kray soviet of people's deputies, and kray administration head Yevgeniy Kuznetsov, emphasizing that the imbalance between industrial and agricultural production is pushing the economy of the countryside toward the danger mark; to go beyond this mark would spell

disaster. The Stepnovskiy Rayon farmers report that most working people in the rayon earn far less than the minimum wage.

Moscow Calls Up Reservists To Help With Farm Work

PM1106143193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Jun 93 First Edition p 1

[POSTFACTUM report under "From Our Correspondents and News Agencies" rubric: "Muscovite Military Reservists Will Go To Gather Harvest"]

[Text] According to a Moscow government decree, as of 1 June Muscovites who are in the reserve will be drafted for a period of up to four months through the military commissariats of administrative districts.

They are to bring up to strength the motor transport battalions earmarked for gathering the 1993 harvests. Prefectures are allocating hardware for the dispatch of drafted citizens to assembly points and the formation of motor transport battalion subunits. The leaders of enterprises, organizations, and establishments allocating citizens are required to draw up the necessary documents for the working people and to send those being mobilized to the place of assembly and dispatch in good time.

Former Deputy Condemns Dudayev; Supports USSR 'Revival'

PM1406134993 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 Jun 93 p 2

[Interview with former USSR People's Deputy S. Umalatova by N. Garifullina; place and date not given: "In the Language of Tanks. S. Umalatova Condemns General Dudayev's Actions"]

[Text] [Garifullina] What do you know about the events of 5 June?

[Umalatova] On that day a referendum was due to be held on confidence in the president and in parliament and on what kind of state structure Chechnya should have. The question was put directly: Should there or should there not be a presidential republic? And what did we see? Dzhokhar Dudayev, "rebel general," "leader of the Chechen people," "champion of democracy," launched tanks against his own people...

My telephone did not stop ringing from early morning on 5 June. Friends, acquaintances, and voters were calling. In rage and pain, and some even in horror, they me about outrages committed by Dudayev's men against civilians. The Groznyy City Assembly building was fired on, and the buildings of many rayon soviet executive committees, where polling stations had been organized and the ballot papers had already been delivered, were devastated. They fired at civilians from tanks! And this despite the fact the referendum was appointed by parliament itself, that is to say, as it is now the custom to say, it was legitimate! According to different sources, between 40 and 60 people were killed!

[Garifullina] And what is the standard of living like?

[Umalatova] The traditions and customs of the people are such that since time immemorial it has been considered the greatest shame to ask for charity. No daughter was sought in marriage from those who stood with hands outstretched for alms and, on the other hand, no one gave his daughter into such a family. But today—it is unbearably painful for me to say so—many beggars have appeared in the city of Groznyy. Those who are ashamed to beg, starve. One newspaper reported the other day that real per capita income in Chechnya has fallen fourfold. Unemployment is increasing and, whereas before my compatriots went to other republics to earn a wage, now, with the disintegration of the Union and the establishment of borders and barriers, it is increasingly difficult to do so. And as for the political atmosphere, Western-style democracy, whereby political opponents are physically destroyed, is being established in our country.

[Garifullina] But, judging by TV footage, the people support Dudayev. We are shown rallies attended by many thousands, spearheaded by gray-bearded elders. After all, among the Caucasus peoples the old men are the most respected—their voice is heeded and their word is law. Why do the wise men of Chechnya support the president?

[Umalatova] Addressing a rally at home I once actually said, not fearing accusations of disrespect for my elders, that old men should sit at home and pray to Allah; that was better than getting mixed up in politics without reflection or without understanding what was going on... You see that even here in Moscow, in Russia, even academics of world renown do not understand everything that is happening in our country completely. But what can you say about our elders: They believe like children a president who skillfully plays on their feelings and on their most sacred concept. Naturally, when Dudayev says on television that he will repulse and annihilate Yeltsin the old men, without understanding the real motives behind what is happening, say to the people: "There's our hero! He does not fear Yeltsin himself!"

[Garifullina] Sazhi, your motherland and mine is the USSR. But Chechnya is your little motherland, your native soil, the land of your ancestors... How would you like to see it?

[Umalatova] Although I was born in Kazakhstan I do, of course, consider Chechnya my homeland. I see its future only within a revived Soviet Union. Without this no people has a future. The collapse of the Soviet Union could today prove a catastrophe for the whole world. This is why I am fighting for its revival.

Kalmykian President, Minister on Development Plans

OW1106084493 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel and Orbita Networks in Russian 1845 GMT 17 May 93

[Studio interview with Kalmykian President Kirsan Nikolayevich Ilyumzhinov and Kalmykian Industry Minister Tamerlan Ibragimovich Gasanov by Sergey Lomakin; from the "Utro" program—live]

[Text] [Lomakin] First, I would like to say a few words. In my opinion, one of the most important and interesting events to have taken place during the past month was the election of the first president of the Republic of Kalmykia. We had a small part in the work of his preelection campaign. So allow me to present Kirsan Nikolayevich Ilyumzhinov, president of the Republic of Kalmykia; and his industry minister, Tamerlan Ibragimovich Gasanov, a brilliant production organizer who is well known in Russian business circles primarily as president of the major Aquarius Systems Interface Company, a major producer of Russian computers. I understand that Kirsan invited him into his government primarily as a production organizer.

I would like to congratulate both of you on the occasion of your successful election and appointment. Now, my first question: When we met several times previously on this program, you outlined your preelection campaign and, as I understand, many of the promises have already been fulfilled. Which promises from your preelection campaign in particular have already been fulfilled?

[Ilyumzhinov] We are fulfilling everything that was set down in the presidential program. The president's team is moving toward those transformations that we envisaged in our republic point by point. First, in my preelection program I promised to cut back the state apparatus tenfold; to disband the Council of Ministers, which consisted of 40 ministries, departments, and committees; and to form a cabinet of ministers with five ministries. All of this has been implemented. The Council of Ministers has resigned and five ministries have been formed.

In my preelection campaign, I promised to disband the cumbersome Supreme Soviet consisting of 130 deputies. As you know, an extraordinary session of the Kalmykian Supreme Soviet was held 30 April and adopted a decree on disbanding local soviets—that is, rural, rayon, and city soviets—and the session of the Kalmykian Supreme Soviet adopted a decision to disband itself. Now a Kalmykian parliament has been formed consisting of 25 deputies. In other words, Soviet power ceased to exist on the territory of Kalmykia on 30 April.

In my presidential program, I also promised that professionals would be attracted to the Cabinet of Ministers, people who have already proven through deeds what they are capable of in their branch. So it is not by coincidence that I selected Tamerlan Ibragimovich Gasanov to be Kalmykian industry minister. He is a well-known entrepreneur, particularly in business circles, where he is recognized as an organizer of production.

Insofar as we want to reorganize the entire industry of our republic and open new branches, particularly those dealing with know-how, I think that Tamerlan Ibragimovich will be the one to implement his ideas. [sentence as heard]

[Lomakin] It will be excellent if this works, out and I hope it does. Now I understand that you are preparing good grounds for the development of enterprises in the republic through various political activities. How will enterprises be developed specifically? After all, Kalmykia has never served as an example for Russian business circles. Who will respond, the president or minister?

[Ilyumzhinov] First, in my preelection campaign, I promised to create an offshore [ofshornaya] zone. But an offshore zone cannot be created right away, so we divided this up into several stages. We are now working with Russian departments and ministries, and we are eliminating unnecessary taxes—rather we are canceling unnecessary taxes and lowering taxes to 3 percent. We even want to eliminate income tax in Kalmykia. By lowering taxes, we will attract entrepreneurs to our republic.

[Lomakin] With their capital and proposals?

[Ilyumzhinov] In just three weeks, we have already received proposals from some 1,500 companies, both foreign joint enterprises and Russian companies, that are ready to register their enterprises in Kalmykia. About 25 banks are ready to open their offices and branches in Kalmykia.

[Lomakin] What priority directions in the sphere of the economy, particularly in industry, do you see in Kalmykia, Tamerlan Ibragimovich?

[Gasanov] I would like to add a few words here. For instance, as an entrepreneur, I can say that conditions for enterprises are still not too good in Russia. As an entrepreneur—I should say a former one, although I hope I will be an enterprising minister—I think that the main thing for the development of enterprises depends on political conditions. So I think that from this point of view, it is my opinion that the best political conditions have been created in Kalmykia today for the successful development of enterprises.

If we talk about specific programs, then our first priority will be to develop the information and finance infrastructures. We need to build routes for the rapid movement of information and money and routes along which people and goods can move rapidly. I think that the entire government, and the Ministry of Industry in particular, will work on this priority and this fundamental direction. On the basis of this, of course, we will

primarily develop high technology branches of industry, despite the fact that Kalmykia is rich in raw materials. So, we will use both traditional branches of industry and very actively develop branches relating to high technology industries.

[Lomakin] Excuse me, but in order to develop high technology branches of industry you first need good personnel. Unfortunately, Kalmykia probably does not have this personnel yet.

[Ilyumzhinov] There are many smart young people and there is a lot of enthusiasm; however, there is no organizer. This is why I invited Tamerlan Ibragimovich, so he would create a team in our republic.

[Gasanov] When I am asked questions of this sort, I always counter with my own question: Can you remember what Taiwan was like just a few decades ago? What South Korea or Singapore were like? In fact, why is it that in Russia, a country with very rich potential—primarily an intellectual potential—results are not as high as in those countries where the potential may not be as great but in which more favorable conditions have been created? It depends on conditions. We know that by creating normal conditions in Kalmykia for people, for the intellectuals, we will attract brains. So the first thing we are trying to do, as Kirsan Nikolayevich has already said, is to attract brains, attract brains in the spheres of finance, information, organization, and so forth.

Naturally, we do not intend to do this only through the enlistment of personnel. Personally, I have met many people in the course of my work and I have seen that there are very many talented young people, including some people who are professionals in their field. So we will combine our efforts; we will attract brains from Russia and other parts of the world—and we already have some preliminary agreements and responses—and, of course, we will undertake a program for training national personnel. In other words, this will become our permanent policy.

[Lomakin] Nevertheless, permit me to interrupt you and ask you this: Kalmykia presently is of interest to foreign companies only as a kind of raw materials repository—and, of course, our own entrepreneurs see it this way. Will you be giving our own entrepreneurs priority in developing and using these raw materials or will you be turning to Western technologies and companies?

[Ilyumzhinov] In addressing voters, I repeatedly said that they need not fear the Japanese or Tambov businessmen, nor American or any others. The people are afraid that someone will come from Japan or Tambov and buy up everything in the republic that is not tied down, that they will haul off oil, gas, everything.

So I stress that according to the presidential program, we will concentrate on creating industries, processing industries. Surely these entrepreneurs will not haul off our land and our plants! Of course, we are now preparing the necessary legislation that will ensure that the citizens of Kalmykia will be the first to benefit from all of this. But Kalmykia is now open to all. We invite everyone. We will organize tenders and competition between entrepreneurs. It makes no difference to us whether they are Russian entrepreneurs or Western ones.

[Lomakin] Here is another question that you may answer if you wish—I know that you must have some secrets you are not always prepared to reveal. Who else from among those people who are fairly well known in Russia—I mean industrialists, bankers, and politicians—do you plan to invite or at least use their recommendations and advice?

[Ilyumzhinov] Mark Oppenheimer, an American businessman and well-known lawyer from the famous Oppenheimer family, has already agreed to work here and has been here on a visit. Two weeks from now, he will arrive in Elista—I have already prepared an office for him—and he will become a state adviser to the president on legal issues, since there will be many companies from abroad. He will help me in this sphere. He has agreed to a salary... [pauses] I said: Excuse me, Mark, but right now I do not have any dollars. He said: Never mind, whatever your advisers make will be fine; I am prepared to take rubles, 10,000 or 20,000 rubles. I am not interested in the money; I am interested in the fact that I am taking part in such revolutionary processes. So we are now holding negotiations and there are other well-known people who are ready to not only cooperate with us but to come here to our republic.

[Lomakin] Thank you. I am sure we are just at the very beginning of a very interesting journey, and we will continue to follow developments in Kalmykia in the future, because we have promised our respected television viewers, and you and ourselves, and because we are interested in the progress of reforms in Kalmykia. So we will inform you on a regular basis about what is happening there. Thank you for coming here and telling us a little about what is happening in the republic and what you are planning to do. Thank you.

Our guests were Kirsan Nikolayevich Ilyumzhinov, the first president of Kalmykia; and Kalmykian Industry Minister Tamerlan Ibragimovich Gasanov. Thank you.

[Ilyumzhinov] Thank you.

[Gasanov] Thank you.

Tatar Party Leader Stands Trial in Kazan

LD1406193893 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1827 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS Correspondent Nikolay Sorokin]

[Text] Kazan June 14 TASS—The trial of the All-Tatar Society Centre Chairman Zinnur Agliullin began in the Supreme Court of Tatarstan today.

As already reported, Agliullin was arrested in Kazan, the capital of Tatarstan, for carrying on his person a firearm on June 10. The court has begun proceedings against him not on this charge, but his previous act.

He is charged with leading mass rallies in Naberezhnye Chelny, raising slogans to carry out a terrorist act of condemning to death President of Tatarstan Mintimer Shaymiyev. Later Agliullin had prepared the text of a telegram, stating that in compliance with the court's decision, the president has been sentenced to death, and dispatched it to the president in Kazan.

An attempt to assassinate the procurator of the Naberezhnye Chelny under the leadership of Agliullin was made in Kazan on November 26, 1992, as a result of which two policemen were wounded.

At first Agliullin refused to accept the bill of indictment, saying that he intends to read the document in the Tatar language only. The court rejected his unlawful objections and provided him time until the morning of June 15 to acquaint himself with the bill of indictment. The court will resume its proceedings on Tuesday [15 June].

International Affairs

Kravchuk Said 'Convinced' of START Ratification

AU1406170993 Kiev MOLOD UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 11 Jun 93 p 1

[Statement by the Press Center of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs: "Will There Be a Meeting Between Kravchuk and Clinton?"]

[Text] Will there be a meeting between Kravchuk and Clinton? For the time being, it is only possible to speak about its possibility rather than likelihood. American guests, mainly high-ranking officials, have lately been arriving in Ukraine with increasing frequency. Some people tend to associate the intensification in the relations between Ukraine and the United States precisely with the discussion of the ratification of START and Ukraine's joining the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. At any rate, having familiarized themselves more thoroughly with our position, the Americans show more understanding of it than they did before. Three weeks ago, Strobe Talbott, ambassador for special missions, visited our country. He spoke about the possibility of signing a U.S.-Ukrainian charter on partnership and friendship. As Anton Buteyko, head of the Presidential Service for International Issues, told journalists, work on this charter will proceed quickly, and when it is ready, it may be signed by the Ukrainian and U.S. presidents.

However, will the United States maintain that understanding if the Ukrainian parliament does not ratify START? Anton Buteyko said that President Kravchuk is convinced: START will be ratified, and for that reason, no other variant was elaborated by his services.

Government Insists on Russian Compensation for Warheads

LD1406221793 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Ukrainian Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma received Wim Kok, deputy prime minister and minister of finance of the Kingdom of Netherlands, who came to Kiev on 14 June at the head of his country's official government delegation. Leonid Kuchma informed Wim Kok about the economic situation in Ukraine, noting that, under conditions in which Russia is increasing the prices of energy sources monthly, it is very difficult for the government to pursue the course of market reforms.

He also clarified the Ukrainian Government's stance on the issue of the START I Treaty ratification. The complexity of the situation lies in the fact that, as soon as Ukraine ratifies the treaty, according to international law, nuclear warheads on Ukraine's territory will automatically become Russia's property without any monetary compensation. That is why the Ukrainian Government has placed a condition on signing an agreement whereby Russia would undertake to supply Ukraine with nuclear fuel for nuclear power stations or to pay for the warheads. However, the media in Moscow is distorting the Ukrainian Government's position, seeing political and not economic motives behind it.

Defense Ministry Denies Plans To Lease Base to Russia

AU1406174393 Kiev DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA in Ukrainian 10 Jun 93 p 1

[Unattributed report published under the rubric "Moment": "Lease Is a Fashionable Thing, But Not for Sevastopol"]

[Text] **The Press Service of Ukraine's Ministry of Defense stated that during the meetings in Sevastopol between the ministers of foreign affairs of Ukraine and Russia and sailors of the Black Sea Fleet, there was no talk about Ukraine's willingness to lease to Russia the Sevastopol naval base in the Crimea.**

Such a decision would not conform to the defense interests of our state and cannot be acceptable for Ukraine.

No such variant of resolving the problem of the fleet is being elaborated by the Ministry of Defense, and no draft plans for resolving such a question by other departments have been coordinated with the Ministry of Defense. The Ministry of Defense believes that there can be no talk of dividing our land or leasing out our cities.

Kravchuk Meets DPRK Parliamentary Delegation

LD1406210493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2002 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Aleksey Petrunya for TASS]

[Text] Kiev June 14 TASS—"We regard with understanding the reunification problem of the Korean people. Ukraine, member of the United Nations, will support the reunification process," President of Ukraine Leonid Kravchuk said during talks with Chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Yang Hyong-sop who headed a North Korean parliamentary delegation.

Leonid Kravchuk expressed satisfaction that interparliamentary ties are being established between the two states. The Ukrainian head of state asked the North Korean leader to convey his best wishes to Kim Il-song, and wished success and prosperity to the Korean people.

"We know that there are many problems at present in Ukraine," Yang Hyong-sop noted. "But we are confident that you will successfully resolve them. The Korean people are grateful to Ukraine for the support to the reunification. They are interested in developing political and economic relations with your country," he said.

The North Korean guest extended Leonid Kravchuk an invitation to visit North Korea which was received with thanks.

Israeli Knesset Speaker Holds 'Historic' Talks

LD1406214493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2028 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Aleksandr Litvinov]

[Text] Kiev June 15 TASS—Speaker of Israel's Knesset (parliament) Shevah Weiss, who arrived in Kiev on the invitation by the Supreme Soviet of Ukraine today, called his visit historic at a meeting with Speaker of the Ukrainian Parliament Ivan Plyushch.

Shevah Weiss emphasised that this is the first time the State of Israel and independent Ukraine have joined forces not only for strengthening bilateral relations, but also to achieve concord, friendship and mutual understanding between all peoples.

The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet chairman informed the Israeli guest of the political state of affairs in the country, the situation prevailing in the parliament as a result of the strike by coal miners and their political demands, in particular, concerning the dissolution of the parliament and conducting fresh polls. The political climate in Ukraine is getting hotter, he noted. But a lot is still to be done to tread the path of real and full democracy, he said.

The same day Shevah Weiss placed a wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldier.

National Affairs

Kravchuk Meets Union Leaders To Discuss 'Crisis'

LD1406175893 Kiev UKRINFORM in Russian 1509 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Alla Moiseyova]

[Text] [no dateline as received] At the request of the Federation of Trade Unions of Ukraine [FTUU], a meeting was held on 14 June between the president of Ukraine and leaders of the FTUU and of trade union associations which are not members of the FTUU. Supporting the idea of Leonid Kravchuk expressed in his television speech that we need social concord, FTUU CHairman Oleksandr Stoyan emphasized that concord can be reached together, by listening to the views of others. The trade unions support the course of economic reforms, but, unfortunately, they are not moving forward. The latest price blow, when the views of the trade unions were ignored and the general tariff agreement concluded between the government and 12 trade union associations were violated, has created a crisis situation in the country which is getting out of control. There is a need to look for specific and realistic proposals.

Vasyl Kostrytsya, cochairman of the National Council for Social Partnership and chairman of the Council of Federations of the Trade Union of Workers in the Cooperative Movement and Other Forms of Free Enterprise, noted in his speech that we are looking for a way out of the situation where social tension is rising. The question therefore arises of why the government and parliament are not forecasting their actions. People want to know where Ukraine is actually going, what they can expect in the future, and in what direction the economy will develop. There must be a program so that it is clearly seen where Russia and where our government are to blame for the situation that has arisen in this uncontrolled price hikes. Those on strike must find a way to solve all issues in a civilized manner, without damaging still further the state's fragile independence.

A number of constructive suggestions were also made at the meeting by Vitaliy Avgustimov, vice president of the Ukrainian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs; Mikhaylo Kaskevych, Ukraine minister of labor; and Oleksandr Mryl, chairman of the Independent Trade Union of Miners.

Summing up the results of the meeting, the president of Ukraine appealed to those gathered together for constructive partnership. We can pull through, stressed Leonid Kravchuk, but we will not be able to pull through if we start internecine strife. All steps must be made on the basis of the law and constitution. Populism and blathering can lead to unpredictable actions. The steps must be agreed by the government and trade unions. I want to ask you to sit down at the negotiating table, to convene on 15 June a national council of partnership, to make constructive proposals. Let this be a collective idea. It will be possible to make use of what is realistic. Why should not the National Council of Social Partnership meet on the last Thursday or Friday of every month in order to sum up the results? It should become a system of tackling all issues. We have no other way.

Kravchuk Decree on Stabilizing Social-Political Situation

LD1406224993 Kiev UKRINFORM in Ukrainian 1131 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] [no dateline as received] Decree of the president of Ukraine on measures to stabilize the social and political situation in Ukraine.

In connection with the sharp deterioration of the social and political situation in a number of Ukraine's regions, I resolve:

1. To instruct Yu. L. Zviahilskiy, first deputy prime minister of Ukraine, to conduct direct negotiations with representatives of trade union organizations and workers' collectives, to analyze promptly the situation locally, and to submit proposals to the president of Ukraine and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on issues that require an urgent solution.

2. The Cabinet of Ministers must:

Work out a draft law on granting the widest powers to the regions on issues of social and economic development and submit it to the Supreme Council of Ukraine;

Work out and present within a month a mechanism of providing the vulnerable strata of the population with necessary food products at discount prices;

Solve within one week the issue of encouraging emergency import in the sectors that ensure the satisfaction of the population's most urgent needs;

Bring into force within one week the mechanisms of regulating supply-and-sale, trade, intermediary, and other services with the aim of curbing the rise of consumer prices;

Implement a package of measures to overcome the energy crisis; to ensure a tight energy-saving regime in the economy and in individual use, primarily in electric power, fuel, gas, and lubricants; to replace power-intensive production processes with new, less energy-consuming ones; and to steadfastly adhere to the earlier adopted decisions on these issues;

Work out and implement a mechanism of regulating profit from trade and intermediary activity by enterprises of all forms of ownership and persons who are subjects of entrepreneural activity, irrespective of the number of intermediaries.

3. Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers, with the participation of the National Bank of Ukraine, must implement measures to overcome the payment crisis, taking into account:

The replenishment of payment means in accordance with the change of prices in the economy;

The establishment of the banks' financial responsibility to customers for delayed transfer of payments;

Mandatory use of economic sanctions against delayed payments;

The introduction of a system of mandatory interest payment on funds left in current and deposit accounts;

The introduction of alternative means of payment in circulation (bills of exchange, deposit certificates, etc.);

The holding of a purge of insolvent enterprises;

And must introduce the regulation of profitability and the use of consumption funds of commercial banks.

4. Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers must adopt a resolution by 20 June 1993 on regional economic cooperation between Dnepropetrovsk, Donetsk, Zaporozhye, and Lugansk oblasts.

5. This decree takes effect from the day of issue.

[Signed] President of Ukraine L. Kravchuk

[Dated] Kiev, 12 June 1993

Cabinet 'Mostly' Satisfies Strikers' Demands

WS1506072893 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Kuchma, a Cabinet of Ministers session was held on 14 June. Vice Prime Minister Viktor Pynzenyk delivered a report on the socioeconomic situation in Ukraine. After a discussion, members of the government mostly satisfied the strikers' economic demands and submitted their political demands to the Supreme Soviet for consideration. The session discussed the issues of turning state-run enterprises into corporations and exempting some goods from export taxes.

Supreme Council Meets To Discuss Strike, Elections

No-Confidence Motion in Kravchuk

LD1406173693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1638 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Gordeyev]

[Text] Donetsk June 14 TASS—Deputies of the Donetsk Regional Council gave a vote of no confidence to President Leonid Kravchuk of Ukraine. In a decision of today's session, the deputies demanded that the Supreme Soviet of Ukraine order and hold an all-Ukrainian referendum on confidence to the president, the Supreme Soviet and Soviets of People's Deputies at all levels.

The session's decision expresses support to main requirements of the working people of industrial enterprises. The Donetsk Regional Council insists on ensuring regional independence of the Donetsk region, as well as entering into the Commonwealth of Independent States with common banking, customs and payment policies.

The session's decision was submitted to the Supreme Soviet of Ukraine whose plenary session opened today at 5 p.m. (Moscow time).

Referendum Issue on Agenda

LD1406173493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1636 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Gorgeyev]

[Text] Kiev June 14 TASS—The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet included in the agenda of the session the question on the holding of a referendum on the confidence to the president and the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet. Participants in the strike in Donbass insist on the referendum. The resolution was adopted by the nominal list of votes after hour and half debates. According to the work of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet, the Ukrainian Government, the majority of people's deputies and the Ukrainian population do not dispose authentic information on the events in south-eastern regions of the republic.

Plyushch Submits Drafts on Elections

LD1406200493 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1705 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Address by Supreme Council Chairman Ivan Plyushch at a Supreme Council session in Kiev—live]

[Text] Twenty-two people's deputies have made speeches at the microphone following the one-hour adjournment. There are another 35 on the list. But as you see, proposals have arrived to end this debate. There were proposals at the beginning that we should not disperse until we adopt a decision. I think that this is an exceptionally important issue and this issue, it cannot be... [sentence incomplete as heard] Therefore I am simply giving you the following as a provisional decision, or as information for reflection, or as one of the compromise versions of the draft resolution which you could think over during the night and we could distribute it to you tomorrow morning so that you would receive it during registration.

These drafts boil down to the following: First, in order to somehow reach a resolution and find a compromise version, we should divide the elections into two stages. If we reduce everything to one stage, then it will be exceptionally difficult to carry it out. Therefore, tomorrow a draft resolution of the Supreme Council could be proposed on the pre-term elections of deputies of local councils of people's deputies: to set the elections of deputies of local councils of people's deputies for December 1993.

Second, to charge the standing commissions on issues of legislation and legality, on issues of the activity of councils of people's deputies, and on the development of local self-government with preparing a draft law by 1 September this year on the election of deputies of local councils of people's deputies and to submit it to the Supreme Council for consideration.

Second [as heard], the draft resolution of the Supreme Council on the pre-term elections of people's deputies of Ukraine. The Supreme Council of Ukraine resolves to hold pre-term elections of people's deputies of Ukraine in March 1994; to hold an all- Ukrainian referendum or a plebiscite, if we agree, at the same time as the holding of elections of Ukraine people's deputies on confidence in the Ukrainian president; to charge standing commissions of Ukraine's Supreme Council for issues of legislation and legality, on issues of the activity of councils of people's deputies, on the development of local self-government, and on issues of deputies' ethics with preparing and submitting for the Supreme Council's consideration by 1 September this year the draft law on elections of people's deputies of Ukraine. The time-scale can be agreed.

In order to adopt the proposed draft, it is necessary to introduce amendments and additions to the constitution, the law of Ukraine on introducing amendments and additions to the constitution of Ukraine. To make additions to clause 114/9 section 4 with the following text: The Supreme Council of Ukraine can set the all-Ukrainian referendum on the question of confidence in the president according to its own initiative. In such case the decision is to be adopted by a majority of no fewer than two-thirds of the virtual number of people's deputies of Ukraine.

Having introduced such changes we could vote for such drafts and at the same time stimulate the intensive work of the Supreme Council, local councils, and the president. If we do not adopt such a resolution we will wait for the next demands.

Session Continues

LD1406211793 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2027 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By UKRINFORM-TASS correspondents Anatoliy Grigoriyev and Viktor Demidenko]

[Text] Kiev June 15 TASS—A meeting of the session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet on Monday [14 June] began from the announcement of demands of the Coordination Council of Strike Committees of the Donbass Region which were read out by People's Deputy Aleksandr Charodeyev.

Representatives of working collectives of this industrial region are demanding a regional autonomy for Donbass, and holding referendums on confidence to the president and the Supreme Soviet of Ukraine. The speaker explained that if the president receives a confidence vote, there will be no need for holding a second referendum. The parliament itself can make a decision on early elections.

People's Deputy Vyacheslav Chernovil expressed a different point of view. He doubted the assertion that all the miners of the Donbass Region are unanimously backing the idea of a regional autonomy. In support of his words, the Rukh leader cited a telegram from the town of Krasnoarmeyisk in the Donetsk region, saying that collectives of a number of mines come out against making Donbass autonomous. According to those miners, this will lead to the "violation of the territorial integrity of Ukraine".

Members of parliament proposed to adopt a decision on early elections of the Supreme Soviet, give the president additional powers, impose a state of economic emergency, and subordinate the National Bank of Ukraine and the foundation for the state property to the government. There were also proposals to render additional powers to the government under a specific programme of recovering from recession.

After a heated discussion members of parliament put on the session's agenda a question about a referendum on confidence to the president and the Supreme Soviet of

Ukraine. However, the final decision was not made yet. The discussion of this issue will be continued on Tuesday.

Kravchuk Addresses 15 Jun Session

LD1506091993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0800 GMT 15 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Gordeyev]

[Text] Kiev, 15 Jun—Ukrainian President Kravchuk set out his vision of the shortest path to settling the country's political crisis that does not require changes to the existing Constitution. Speaking at the session at the Supreme Council of Ukraine today, he proposed to people's deputies that new elections to parliament be set, and that during the elections an all-Ukrainian referendum be held both on confidence in the president and on the paths of reform to be taken in the future sovereign state. Kravchuk did not rule out the possibility of the people of Ukraine opposing the institution of the presidency in the republic during the referendum.

Further on Developments in, Reaction to Strike

Strike Prompts Separatist Talk

PM1406133393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jun 93 First Edition p 2

[Report by Nikolay Lisovenko under the general heading: "Donbass Strikes, Dnieper Region Sends Pickets To Kiev"]

[Text] Donetsk—The miners' strike which has started in Donetsk has now brought more than 60 pits to a halt. More and more enterprises in various sectors of industry are joining in the strike.

Outside the Donetsk Oblast administration building, where there is a constant rally in progress, white scarves contrasted sharply with the miners' black work clothes. Women workers from the local cotton combine, representatives of which staged a hunger strike a couple of weeks ago outside the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet, had come to talk about their problems.

After the Union broke up and Uzbek cotton ceased to be regarded as the base of the Ukrainian textile industry, the women were left without anything to do, without pay, and without hope for the future through no fault of their own.

The same goes for the drivers. They had lived and worked for decades without it occurring to them that the time would come when not even the state would be able to afford fuel. Now a tonne of gasoline costs on average 1 million karbovantsy. That is why the drivers are now standing alongside the miners, demanding that their problems be solved too.

Workers from one of the city's most stable and most secretive enterprises—the "Tochmash" plant—have also joined the rally. The locals know it is a major military plant. Its collective is also experiencing many problems.

The strikers are demanding the disbandment of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet and new elections; that is, they want new people to lead the state, people capable of governing the republic. People here believe that the government is to blame for what has happened to the people. There was a time for conducting reforms, and that time is lost and gone forever. There is no excuse for this.

Certainly, now that coal remains the only energy source in Ukraine, not everyone regards the miners' actions as patriotic. Not everyone agrees with the Kuzbass miners, who sent assurances to the Donbass that they would not provide Ukraine with a single tonne of coal if the current Ukrainian Government tried to solve the energy problems by importing "black gold."

The working people's demands are legitimate. But during the current crisis, which is both economic and political, certain forces are trying to add fuel to the fire. There was intolerable abuse of the Ukrainian president at the rally, there were slogans about Donbass separation, and the idea was put forward of "autonomization of the region." As the Yugoslav, Dniester, Karabakh, and other similar events show, this leads to tragedy.

During the past 24 hours the striking miners of Donetsk Oblast have been joined by the miners of 42 pits in Lugansk Oblast and seven pits at the "Pavlogradugol" association in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast. So by the morning of 10 June around one-half of the 250 mines in Ukraine were on strike.

The Donetsk deputies, sharing the voters' anxiety, decided to convene an extraordinary session of the oblast soviet to examine the question of an autonomous Donetsk Oblast within Ukraine.

Tens of Thousands at Rally

LD1406173393 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1612 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Gordeyev]

[Text] Donetsk, 14 Jun—Today tens of thousands of people took part in a demonstration and rally of protest against the badly formulated economic policy of the Ukrainian Government. Early this morning columns of representatives of the labor collectives started to move from different districts to October Square in Donetsk. Here the protest rally started to the siren of the Donetsk metallurgical plant, perhaps sounding at an unscheduled hour for the first time since the war (with the exception of days of mourning, of course).

The residents of Donetsk who spoke at the rally and the envoys from other towns in the oblast, as well as the delegates from the striking enterprises of Lugansk and Dnepropetrovsk oblasts, subjected the economic policy

of the Ukrainian president and government to scathing criticism, and spoke out in support of the political demands of the strikers.

Today a sitting of the strikers' interregional interindustry coordination council took place. Representatives of the miners strike committees confirmed yet again their decision that they will not hold any talks with the government on benefits and concessions to industries until the Supreme Soviet has adopted a decision on the main political demands—that Donetsk oblast should be granted regional economic independence, and that a Ukraine-wide referendum should be held on confidence in the president and the soviets of people's deputies of all levels.

Dnepropetrovsk Miners Strike

LD1406201693 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Video report by G. Klimov from Dnepropetrovsk Oblast, including recorded remarks by V.A. Sokolov, member of Coordination Committee; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] All 11 mines of the Pavlograd coal association are on strike. The miners' demands echo those submitted by the miners of Donetsk. The first one is for a popular referendum on confidence in the Supreme Soviet deputies and the president.

Protesters already know about the decision to increase wages for the main mining professions adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers recently.

[Sokolov] Only a strike can force the government and the Supreme Soviet to satisfy our demands. We want our political demands to be met first.

[Klimov] At today's rally it was announced that the miners' strike is being supported by one of the main city's enterprises—the Pavlograd chemical plant.

38 Kharkov Enterprises Participate

WS1506075493 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Voting by secret ballot is continuing at Kharkov Oblast enterprises with regard to joining the strike. As on 14 June, 38 enterprises confirmed their participation in the strike, including the Index Production Association, the Elektronmash experimental factory, and the Lozova Mechanical Plant that employs 14,000 workers. Kharkov Oblast Trade Union Association has turned to the city soviet with a request to permit a strikers meeting on 24 June. A positive answer has not yet been received. Similar meetings have been planned in Chuguyev and Lozova.

Democratic Party Condemns Strike

WS1506082893 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] The Ukrainian Democratic Party [DemPU] Presidium has circulated a declaration issued by its Donetsk branch. The declaration refers to the strike as a "political provocation on the part of communist anti-Ukrainian forces and a threat to Ukraine's territorial integrity." According to the DemPU, the main cause of the crisis is Supreme Soviet's inability to draw up a plan for Ukraine's development and the president's irresolution and orientation toward the old communist cadre.

Nationalists Blame Kravchuk

WS1506075193 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] The Donetsk Oblast Branch of the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists discussed the political situation in Ukraine at its regular session and adopted an address to the president. The address says that the cause of the strike has been attributed to anti-Ukrainian forces by the president himself. "The 7 June increase of prices was planned and aimed at causing a social flare-up." The declaration underlines: "Your inaction and personnel policy in the current situation are leading to a loss of Ukrainian statehood, and you are fully responsible for this to history and to the Ukrainian nation."

Miners Warned Against Dumping

LD1406223093 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Ivan Herts, Ukraine's minister of external economic relations, informed the miners' strike committee that the demands they presented to the ministry have been met. In particular, they concern granting the mines the right to export 10 percent of the annual coal output. At the same time, the minister warned the miners against selling coal abroad at dumping prices, because international organizations could use relevant sanctions against Ukraine.

Bank Issues New Mutiple-Use Coupon

AU1506073893 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 11 Jun 93 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Ukraine's National Bank Has Reported Issuing Its Own 'Greenbacks'"]

[Text] On 9 June 1993, Ukraine's National Bank put into circulation multiple-use coupons worth 10,000 Ukrainian karbovantsy [K] of 1993 design. The K10,000 banknotes have been made with changes in size, patterns, and colors and printed on white paper with watermarks in the shape of shields and with emblems of Ukraine's National Bank that run from top to bottom, if one looks at the obverse side in the part of the coupon free of print. The main color on the obverse side of the coupon is green. It depicts a portion of the Prince

Volodymyr monument. The reverse side of the coupon displays a part of the building of Ukraine's National Bank in Kiev. Doesn't this signify that our "greenback" will be worth one American "greenback" soon?

Crimean Parliament Decides on Position Regarding Fleet

LD1406202793 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 14 Jun 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The presidium of the Crimean Supreme Soviet has today decided on the position that Simferopol will adopt regarding the Black Sea fleet at the upcoming talks between the presidents of Ukraine and Russia on 17 June. It was decided to hold on to three points: the necessity at this stage to preserve the Black Sea fleet as a single combat-ready force, which should protect the common interests; the obligation to take into consideration the interests of Crimea and Sevastopol in all decisions connected with the fleet; and legal protection for the rights of the Black Sea fleet seamen.

Justice Ministry Registers 'Ukraine-Russia' Society

AU1506073793 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 9 Jun 93 p 5

[Unattributed report: "'The Ukraine-Russia' Society Has Been Registered"]

[Text] Ukraine's Ministry of Justice has registered the "Ukraine-Russia" Society. It is an all-Ukrainian public organization that was created by citizens of Ukraine on the basis of common interests in order to promote comprehensive cooperation between Ukraine and the Russian Federation and satisfy and protect, by joint efforts, the national and cultural and economic rights and freedoms. The society functions on a voluntary basis and ensures equality of its members, self-governing, law and order, and openness.

The new public organization is active in Ukraine and is guided by Ukraine's Constitution, current legislation, and its own statutes. It may found or join international public (nongovernmental) organizations, maintain direct international contacts and ties, and conclude corresponding accords and agreements. The society constitutes a juridical person. The following is the address of its leading bodies:

252053, Kiev, Kyyanivskyy Provulok, 3-7, telephone number 212-45- 92.

Symposium on Chernobyl AES Reveals Differing Views

AU1506114993 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 11 Jun 93 p 3

[Oleksiy Breus report: "Arguments Are Not Yet Guarantees"]

[Text] *A symposium was held in Kiev on "The Chernobyl Atomic Electric Power Plant [AES]: Scientific-Technological, Economic, and Social Consequences of Political Decisions." It was organized at the initiative of Ukraine's Scientific and Technological Union of Power Engineers and Electrotechnical Specialists in order to obtain comprehensive information on the state of safety at the Chernobyl AES and to discuss arguments in favor and against the continued exploitation of its units.*

The positions of the speakers regarding the fate of the Chernobyl AES were clear even prior to the speeches. However, their arguments did differ.

Assertions to the effect that, in terms of many characteristics, RBMK reactors are better than reactors of other types were used in favor of a continued exploitation of the Chernobyl AES. Today, the Chernobyl AES is under control of various departments, no infrastructure for processing radioactive waste has been created yet, there is no concept for maintaining the zone of radioactive risk [zona vidchuzhennya] after the plant is shut down, social problems of its personnel have not been resolved, and so on. According to the estimates by the Ministry of Health, the exposure of the population to radiation will practically not decrease at all after if the plant is closed, whereas its operation does not affect the ecological situation either in the Chernobyl zone or outside it. Of course, power engineers also spoke of the need for electric energy and of the large economic losses that may result from closing down the Chernobyl AES.

Opponents of the continued exploitation of the power units complete with RBMK reactors also referred to financial estimates. They insisted that very large sums may be needed to render these reactors safe. It would be better to spend it on safe energy. For the time being, these reactors do not conform to contemporary or even previous safety requirements. However, no changes in their design will rectify their shortcomings. Even normally operating AES' have a negative effect upon the environment, but atomic specialists are hushing this up. Who can guarantee safety in the future if the probability of accidents at an AES equipped with RBMK reactors is a hundredfold greater than normal?

Chairman of Ukraine's State Committee for Atomic Supervision M. Umanets tried to offer such a guarantee based upon his own experience and changes at the Chernobyl AES. This was, however, questioned by Minister of Environmental Protection Yu. Kostenko, due not only to the indisputable shortcomings of the RBMK

reactors. He recalled that there is still no law in Ukraine on the safe utilization of nuclear energy, and the system of state regulation and management of atomic energy is such that the controlling organ—the State Committee for Atomic Supervision—is a member of the Fuel and Energy Complex together with the State Committee for Atomic Energy. It cannot, therefore, remain independent.

Participants in the symposium also voiced "halfway" proposals. V. Shovkoshytnyy, president of "The Chernobyl Union" international organization suggested that, taking into account the reserves of nuclear fuel, the first power unit of the Chernobyl AES should be allowed to continue operation until spring and that the third unit should be halted when it starts interfering with the work on the "sarcophagus." This gave rise to indignation among the Greens, with whom V. Shovkoshytnyy sided.

Neither the supporters nor opponents of the Chernobyl AES managed to convince one another. Emotions sometimes prevailed in the speeches.

Belarus

Constitutional Hearings Could Take Until Spring

PM1506103793 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Jun 93 First Edition p 7

[Aleksey Yeroshenko report: "One Fewer Holidays"]

[Text] Gomel—The lengthy constitutional grind in Belarus has ended in a draw. Some 113 of the draft's 153 articles have been examined and only 64 have been unconditionally adopted, although even the most inveterate skeptics thought a positive outcome preordained. After all, you cannot get away from the tricky fact that the sovereign state is still living by the fundamental law of a union soviet socialist republic.

But life is full of paradoxes. The conceptual provisions of the new draft constitution that were approved last fall have been given legal polish by the relevant national commission and discussed with consultants invited in from Europe, and they have finally acquired the desired shape. However, the latest Supreme Soviet session made a successful attempt to tailor fundamentally important aspects of the draft to fit the interpretation of prevailing political forces. The attacks on the link between past and future were particularly well aimed.

The draft's provisions on the presidency came in for fierce attack. Incidentally, no more than three months ago that form of state government was suggested and authoritatively substantiated by the same deputies who during the current convocation completely changed their position to involuntarily side with their opponents from the People's Front. This gave Front leader Zenon Poznyak grounds to once again mock the unprofessionalism of such a contradictory parliament and demand that it dissolve itself. However, judging by the pace of their work the people's representatives are in no hurry to hasten their final hour and, in the opinion of local political scientists, will try to prolong the discussion of the fundamental law until next spring. To make up for it, the decision not to institute a holiday on the day the Constitution is adopted instantly won a majority vote.

Shushkevich Comments on Rise in Prices

WS1406144493 Minsk BELINFORM in Russian 1032 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Supreme Soviet Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich has commented on the recent increase in prices of many goods, including foodstuffs. According to the chairman, the increase does not contribute toward a civilized market. This measure is rather more typical of a centrally planned system than a market economy, because it has not been accompanied by increased freedom in trade.

Stanislav Shushkevich pointed out that the government is being forced to respond with price increases to measures taken by the Supreme Soviet.

Trade Unions Win Compensation After Price Increases

LD1406132493 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1100 GMT 14 Jun 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] [Correspondent Lyudmila Vilyuga] It seems as though it will be possible to neutralize the prestrike alert declared at many Belarusian enterprises following last week's sharp increases in the price of food, electricity, and municipal services. In this instance the republic's trade union federation has adopted a principled stance. It has demanded an immediate meeting of the tripartite commission responsible for monitoring the implementation of the general agreement between the Council of Ministers, employers, and the trade unions.

Initially representatives of state organizations tried to play down the reality of the economic situation. But the arguments of the trade unions proved more convincing. The threefold fall in the standard of living in Belarus and, now, the intolerable gap between minimum wages - 6,600 [currency not specified] - and the present cost of the consumer basket - 18,000 - cannot fail to lead to a social explosion.

[V. Goncharik, chairman of council of Belarus trade union federation] The problem concerns those enterprises which [word indistinct] are undergoing conversion. They need to be restructured [words indistinct] output. They need support in the form of debt rescheduling, tax breaks, soft loans, and so on. This was resolved today.

[Vilyuga] Furthermore, wages, pensions, and allowances will be compensated, to the tune of at least 70 percent, for the price increases.

Moldova

Snegur Requests Media Help Against 'Negative Phenomena'

AU1506123993 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2010 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 14/6/1993—The President of the Republic of Moldova, Mircea Snegur, today had a meeting with reporters of the news programs of national radio and television, communicated the press service of the president. Mircea Snegur requested the help of the television journalists in eliminating some negative phenomena which swamp society, such as corruption, dilapidation of state property, and the violation of human rights. The president also stressed that national radio and television should become a state company and the financial liberty of the news programs should not be restricted by burdensome regulations. Referring to the eastern regions of the republic [Dniester region] and the way they are reflected in the news programs, Mircea Snegur spelled out the importance of

extending the broadcasting of radio programs in the respective localities. Television journalists in their turn mentioned the problems they face, especially their small wages, the lack of convenient technical devices, and the pressure they endure from the side of some political movements and parties.

Dniester Conflict Talks Reach 'Deadlock'

AU1506122993 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2010 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS 14/6/1993—Up to the present all the prospects for resolving the Dniester conflict depend more on the people engaged in the talks, than on reasonable political arguments or the principles of international rights. This is the conclusion to be made in the situation when a dialogue between Chisinau and Tiraspol (correspondingly Andronic-Volkova) came to a deadlock. After two "Summit talks" between the leaders of Moldova and Tiraspol (which earlier were regarded as a "betrayal of motherland") and the progress achieved by the commissions Taran-Caraman-Litkal, the new Tiraspol commission, made up of zealous advocates of Dniester's statehood has brought talks back to the starting point. The chairman of Parliamentary commission on resolving the social-political conflict in the Eastern regions of Moldova, Nicolae Andronic, stated that no progress was achieved in the second round of talks and underlined that the manner in which Tiraspol approaches the problem can finally affect the process of elaborating the special judicial status of regions on the left bank of the Dniester. Andronic specified that Chisinau offered for discussion principles for finally settling the conflict, while the Dniester side advanced a variant for acknowledgement "de jure" and "de facto" of the self-proclaimed Dniester Republic. Though the Dniester side made many reports on the course of talks, it didn't state clearly what induced it to bring the talks back to a deadlock, in addition, the head of the Tiraspol commission, Anna Volkova, suggested that the proposal by the Dniester commission concerning a federal structure of Moldova is quite a concession from the side of Tiraspol, and hence it might have been natural for Chisinau to offer one. Contrary to expectations, despite the fair reasons to give up talks, Chisinau finds arguments for going ahead. This position is obviously aimed at conveying a good impression to international bodies, which are directly or indirectly involved in the process of resolving the conflict. "The deadlock in the talks and objective estimate of the situation in the presence of CSCE mission serve as an important issue in the affairs, Nicolae Chirtoaca. He believes that no progress between Chisinau and Tiraspol can be achieved without interference of the CSCE mission, which is constantly present at the talks, and without drawing Russia into this as a disinterested mediator. Chisinau is growing more concerned about external factors. It is no accident that during a visit by the Special adviser of the State Secretariat of the USA, Strobe Talbott, the means of resolving the conflict should become a particular subject for consideration. On the other hand there has been no fixed date for the withdrawal of the 14th Army, the presence of which is one of the most influential factors. On the 5th round of Moldovan-Russian talks concerning this problem, Chisinau suggested that the Russian Army withdraw by the middle of next year. But Russia earlier insisted upon another date—1 January 1995. During the meeting held on 15 May 1993, President Yeltsin and Snegur reconfirmed their common position which is shared by Tiraspol leaders as well. According to the agreement the withdrawal of the troops will be carried out synchronically with the determination of a special judicial status for Dniester. The paradox of the situation is that the presence of the 14th Army constantly poses a risk to interrupt negotiations, but Russian troops "cannot leave Moldova until the Dniester conflict is settled by political means."

Official Notes Slow Pace of Agricultural Reform

AU1406161793 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2032 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS 12/6/1993—The head of the general administration on the problems of agrarian reform in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, Anatolie Istrati, in his interview to the weekly newspaper VIATA SATULUI [VILLAGE LIFE] spelled out the slow pace of agrarian reform, especially in the enterprises of agriculture. As a result of the delay in privatisation and the absence of any mechanisms for its realisation, practically nothing has changed at these enterprises, and the process which hardly started slowed down, states Istrati. At the present, the ministry together with the Privatisation Department is working out a number of regulations for the mechanism of privatisation in this particular filed of industry. Concerning the formation of individual farms, the quoted source stated that 15,500 people have already signified their consent to become farmers. As many as 5,200 requests were satisfied: 1,600 farms have become official. Each of them owns on average 1,9 hectares of land. Istrati expressed his opinion that real farms will appear only when land becomes a subject for purchase and sale.

Armenia

Ter-Petroysan Concerned Over Karabakh Indecision

NC1406131493 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1400 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan issued the following statement at 1300 on 14 June: The Armenian Republic expresses its profound concern at the inability of the Nagorno-Karabakh authorities to adopt decisions and assume responsibility at critical moments and at its not using this singular opportunity to establish a cease-fire.

The Armenian Government is certain that the Nagorno-Karabakh authorities, by acting as people's real leaders, will rise above secondary considerations unrelated with the initiative and, as it is not too late, make the necessary decision for the sake of the security and peace of the people of Nagorno-Karabakh by realizing their historic responsibility for the fate of their own people.

More on Ter-Petrosyan Statement

LD1406131493 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1140 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan, 14 Jun—Today President of Armenia Levon Ter- Petrosyan has come forward with a statement, in which he expresses Yerevan's deep concern over "the inability of the Nagorno-Karabakh authorities to take responsibility for making decisions at crucial moments." The Armenian leader also reproached Stepanakert for failing to take an exceptional opportunity to cease-fire in the conflict region.

At the same time L. Ter-Petrosyan expressed confidence that the authorities of Nagorno-Karabakh "will be able to be above the secondary considerations that bear no relation to the CSCE initiative and will show themselves as true people's leaders." While it is not too late, it is necessary to adopt a decision in the interest of peace and security of the people of Nagorno-Karabakh, the president of Armenia stated. He called upon the Karabakh leaders to realize their responsibility for the destiny of their own people and history.

L. Ter-Petrosyan's statement came after the Nagorno-Karabakh leadership had for several days postponed making any response to the proposals of the nine-member CSCE Minsk group on a Karabakh settlement, to which Yerevan and Baku gave a positive response. The withdrawal of troops from Kelbadzharskiy rayon of Azerbaijan, as envisaged by the CSCE schedule, gives rise to fears on the Karabakh side. In return Stepanakert is demanding reliable guarantees for the security of the Nagorno-Karabakh population. Karabakh's attitude to the CSCE initiative was the subject of the Yerevan meeting of Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, Russian Security Minister Viktor Barannikov, and the leaders of Nagorno-Karabakh and also of the consultations between the latter and the president of Armenia, which took place in Goris in the southeast of the republic, on Saturday [12 June].

Ter-Petrosyan Travels to Stepanakert

NC1406155093 Yerevan SNARK in English 1442 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Stepanakert, June 14, (SNARK)—Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan arrived at Stepanakert this afternoon. The disagreement in Karabakh leadership relating the last peace initiative of the CSCE on the Karabakh conflict settlement are the reason of that such unexpected presidential trip. Karabakh Department of the Press and Information informed SNARK reporter today the Armenian president met members of Karabakh parliament president and Karabakh Defence State Committee. [as received] Observers share the opinion that the president would convince Karabakh authority in advisability of urgent positive reply to the CSCE peace initiative. It is the first Levon Ter-Petrosyan's visit to Nagorno-Karabakh as Armenian president.

Presidential Aide Welcomes Karabakh CSCE Decision

LD1506032493 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0221 GMT 15 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tirgan Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan, 15 Jun—Stepanakert's decision on Monday [14 June] evening in support of the CSCE initiative testifies to the political maturity and flexibility of the leadership of Nagorno-Karabakh, David Shakhnazaryan, the Armenian president's plenipotentiary representative and a deputy in the republic's parliament, said here today. In an interview with an ITAR-TASS correspondent, he expressed the opinion that this event will mark the start of a new stage in the settlement of the Karabakh conflict—a stage of a cease-fire and the genuine start of the peace process.

The Armenian diplomat expressed the hope that Azerbaijan and Nagorno-Karabakh will accept the logic of peace, which has to replace the logic of war and confrontation. He believes that goodwill on the part of the main sides involved in the conflict—Baku and Stepanakert—is necessary for the initiative by the nine countries of the Minsk group of the CSCE to be implemented succesfully, along with the institution of international observers. There is every reason to believe that there will be this goodwill, which will allow all obstacles on the path of the peace process in the region to be removed, David Shakhnazaryan said.

Karabakh Regions Reportedly Come Under Shelling

NC1506150693 Yerevan SNARK in English 1207 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Stepanakert, June 15 (SNARK)—Tension is going on in Karabakh. According to the data received from the Karabakh Department of Press and Information, tanks, artillery and "Grad" launched shelled [as received] last night and this morning from the territory of Agdam region of Azerbaijan the settlements of Martuni, Askeran and Mardakert regions of Karabakh. No information on the results of the shelling. [sentence incomplete as received]

Martuninskiy Commander Killed in Fighting

NC1506064393 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1700 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] The Armenian Defense Ministry's press service informed ARMENPRES that the situation in Armenia's border regions was calm last night and today.

Aiming to breach the defensive positions of Nagorno-Karabakh Republic's [NKR] self-defense forces, Azerbaijani armed formations attacked Askeranskiy, Martuninskiy, and Mardakertskiy Rayons on the night of 12 June.

Both sides lost men and material in the fierce battles that followed. Preliminary reports say a deserved counterstrike was inflicted on the enemy, which lost three tanks and one armored car.

Mostly positional battles continued today along the entire eastern battlefront of the NKR. Armenian settlements are coming under artillery shelling. Experts link developments with the domestic crisis in Azerbaijan.

'Ve had [word indistinct] losses during the fighting in the ›ast two days. One was Colonel Monte, also known as Avo, Melkonian, the commander in chief of the self-defense forces in Martuninskiy Rayon, who died heroically during the suppression of the Azerbaijani Army's gun emplacement on 12 June.

Monte Charles Melkonian was born in California in 1957. After graduating from Berkeley University in 1970, he left for Lebanon and enrolled in local Armenian organizations and started defending the Armenians. He was in the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia [ASALA] between 1981 and 1985 and fought to internationalize the Armenian cause. He came to Armenia in 1990 and dedicated himself to the national liberation movement. He left for Karabakh and fought on various fronts in Shaumyanovskiy Rayon. He became the chief of staff of the self-defense forces headquarters in Martuninskiy Rayon in 1992 and then commander in chief of the forces there.

Monte Melkonian died in an ambush by remnants of the crushed enemy who were hiding during a regular military operation aimed at suppressing the enemy's military bases.

The [words indistinct] of the talented commander will remain fresh in the memory of all Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh, Armenia, and elsewhere.

The funeral for the freedom fighter of Nagorno-Karabakh and commander in chief of the self-defense forces in Martuninskiy Rayon takes place at the (?officers club) in Yerevan at 1400 on 19 June.

Azerbaijan

Elchibey Receives Foreign Diplomats 14 Jun

NC1406182293 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English 1508 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Baku 14.06.93 (ASSA-IRADA)—Today Azeri president received ambassadors of Germany, the USA, China, France, Turkey, Pakistan, Russia, Iraq, Iran and the UN representative in Baku president press-service informed ASSA-IRADA. Abulfaz Elchibey addressed them with a brief statement, which covered Gyandzha events since June 4. Investigation group of MM [Milli Mejlis—National Assembly] deputies is created to ascertain culprits of bloodshed. There is an agreement on fire-cease. However the opposition, said the president, violenced the agreement. It occupies districts, overthrows local power. In fact is an attempt of state coup in the Republic. There is a danger of civil war. Azerbaijan democracy is under danger. I ask your states to enjoy all opportunities to protect Azeri democracy. Naturally, it's the matter of political and moral assistance. The US, Turkish and Russian ambassadors said that their governments officially support Azerbaijan at this difficult moment and support the legally elected president.

Warns of Coup, Threat to Democracy

NC1406190493 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] President Abulfaz Elchibey received the German, U.S., French, Turkish, Pakistani, Russian, Iraqi, and Iranian ambassadors and the UN representative in Baku today. The presidential press service has informed an AZERTAC correspondent that Elchibey made a brief statement during the reception. He said:

The Azerbaijan National Army 709th Brigade disobeyed the defense minister's orders several times. Consequently, the Defense Ministry adopted a decision to disband that military unit. A tragic incident occurred when the decision was put into effect. There was bloodshed. The Azerbaijan National Assembly has set up a parliamentary investigation committee to ascertain those responsible for the incident.

A general agreement was reached after the incidents to completely suspend the activities of military forces in order to prevent a confrontation among citizens in the entire republic and prevent inciting and provocative reports on the incidents. However, the opposing side has violated that agreement. It placed several rayons under its control and arbitrarily replaced its leading officials. A military coup is considered a possibility. The threat of civil war has been created. Democracy in Azerbaijan is threatened.

I urge your countries to use their resources to help Azerbaijan safeguard its democracy. What Azerbaijan needs is moral and political help.

Unfortunately, the leading officials of the Armenian community in Nagorno-Karabakh have failed to respond to the proposals made by nine countries. That has increased tension in Azerbaijan. Nevertheless, the Armenians have used the tense situation in the republic to attack Agdamskiy Rayon. Several people have been killed. We ask that your countries move to explain their position against the Armenian side's [word indistinct] on the document. The Armenians in Karabakh and their supporters are making every effort to disrupt stability in Azerbaijan.

Later, the U.S., Turkish, and Russian ambassadors said that their countries officially support Azerbaijan at this difficult time and stressed once again that they support President Elchibey, who has been elected through a legal and democratic process. They also asserted that they will inform their heads of government on the meeting.

Further on Elchibey Address

LD1406145093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1330 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sevindzh Abdullayeva and Viktor Shulman]

[Text] Baku, 14 June—Azerbaijan's President Abulfaz Elchibey regards the actions of former National Army Colonel Surat Guseynov and his supporters as an attempted military coup. In a short statement that he made today at a meeting with heads of diplomatic missions accredited to the republic, the head of state said that "a group of military and civilian figures has contrived to seize power in Azerbaijan by force of arms."

Despite everything, the president said, the leadership of Azerbaijan is making every effort to avert civil war in the Republic and to reach a peaceful resolution of the confrontation that has arisen. But the appeals for a mutual withdrawal of forces and for restraint are not being heeded by the opposing side, Abulfaz Elchibey said. In this connection, he announced that the military units led by Surat Guseynov have already advanced as far as Adzhi- Kabul, the administrative center of the rayon of the same name, 120 kilometers from Baku. Given such a turn of events, the president believes, "The government is entitled to take firm measures and may well do so." He called on diplomats to convey objective information about what is happening in Azerbaijan to their countries' leaderships and announced also that he intends to make a full statement once the head of the Nakhichevan parliament, Geydar Aliyev, returns from Gyandzha.

In the opinion of Abulfaz Elchibey, tension in Azerbaijan is being heightened further by the refusal of the Armenian community in Nagorno-Karabakh to accept the suggestions of the nine countries taking part in the CSCE Minsk group seeking a peaceful resolution to the conflict. This, he believes, once again demonstrates that the Armenians are determined to solve the complex problem by force. The president is convinced that the leaders of the Minsk Group countries should make their position public on this.

Turkish Ambassador Altan Karamanoglu and U.S. Charge d'Affaires Robert Finn also spoke at the meeting. They voiced the official positions of their countries: support for the democratic processes in this Caucasus republic and for its lawfully-elected president.

In an exclusive interview with ITAR-TASS, the head of the Russian diplomatic mission in Azerbaijan, Valter Shoniya, said that his country's leadership has yet to give its official viewpoint on the events in and around Gyandzha. This will be done, he stressed, once the Russian administration receives exhaustive information. The ambassador described allegations of Russian involvement in the Gyandzha tragedy as "insinuations."

U.S. Embassy Press Attache Cited on Evacuation

NC1506094793 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English 0920 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Baku, 15.06.93 (ASSA-IRADA)—Most representatives of oil companies left Azerbaijan. Yesterday a large group of Amoco Penzoil, MacDermot BP/Statioil [names as received] local staff left Baku for Istanbul. About 1-2 men remained in each office. Mr. Donald Kaufmann the U.S. Embassy press-attache told ASSA-IRADA. This measure was taken to provide security of the personnel and their families in the current alarming situation arisen in the republic.

Guseynov Threatens Attack on Baku 'Tonight'

LD1406204393 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 14 Jun 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Colonel Guseynov has stated in an interview to the KHOBAR-SERVIS agency that an attack on Baku will be undertaken tonight, unless all executive authorities, including the president, resign before 15 June. To tell the truth, other agencies have not yet confirmed this report.

Elchibey Holds 'Closed Doors' Meeting With Aliyev

NC1406205493 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English 1741 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Baku, 14.06.93 (ASSA-IRADA)—The meeting between the president of Azerbaijan Abulfaz Elchibey and the leader of Nakhichevan parliament Geydar Aliyev, who came back from Gyandzha, is proceeding now behind closed doors. According to the confidential sources, they are talking about how to find the way from the crisis in Azerbaijan. Being in Gyandzha, Geydar Aliyev has promised to the citizens of this town to inform the government of Azerbaijan about their requirements.

Tonight, the "events in Gyandzha" are the main subject on national TV. The fashion was set by Matlab Mutalimov, the lawyer and the head of the deputate commission on investigation of Gyandzha events. M. Mutalimov and other members of this commission, who were in studio, informed the people about that the commission has visited Gyandzha with the purpose to collect the information about the events, that took place here on June the 4th. This commission includes the representatives of Gyandzha too. M. Mutalimov, who just recently held the position of deputy of procurator-general of Azerbaijan did not assess the events in Gyandzha, but he pointed out that the "investigation is not finished yet, and all premature conclusions will only aggravate the situation in the republic". He also said that the commission is going back to Gyandzha to continue its work.

The meeting that was held right in front of the building of presidents office finished already. The organizers of the above-mentioned meeting reserve the right to gather their supporters tomorrow.

Geydar Aliyev Interviewed on Crisis

NC1406192993 London Kanal-6 Television in Turkish 1630 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Report on interview with Geydar Aliyev, chairman of Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic National Assembly, by Mete Cubukcu; place and date not given]

[Text] Azerbaijan, which suffered heavy military defeats at the hands of the Armenians, is now on the threshold of a civil war. The political chaos has not yet been resolved. Kanal-6 correspondents Mete Cubukcu and Mustafa Sap investigated the situation in Baku and Gyandzha for you and met the key man in the political crisis, Geydar Aliyev.

The rebellion in Gyandzha is spreading. Having taken Yevlakh under their control, the rebels headed by Surat Guseynov are continuing to advance towards Barda. In the meantime, prayers are offered in Baku's martyrs cemetery for those killed by the bullets of brothers.

Not missing this opportunity, the Armenians of Karabakh are continuing to advance inside Azerbaijani territory.

But complete confusion prevails in Baku. The rebels have already forced Prime Minister Panakh Guseynov and National Assembly Speaker Isa Kamberov to resign.

Geydar Aliyev is the key man to solve the political crisis. The chairman of the Nakhichevan parliament, Aliyev, who was a member of the former CPSU Politburo, was called to Baku to resolve the crisis.

After his contacts in Baku, Aliyev went to Gyandzha and met with rebel leader Surat Guseynov. It is being reported that Aliyev, who last week rejected the premiership offered to him, will become the chairman of parliament. However, Aliyev will make his decision after meeting with Guseynov. According to some, Aliyev has set his eyes even higher. Geydar Aliyev gave the following reply to a question on this issue by our correspondent Mete Cubukcu:

[Aliyev] My intention is to stabilize the situation in Azerbaijan. If they consider giving me an important post to accomplish this, I will think about it.

[Cubukcu] It is said that you turned down the position of premier and chairman of the parliament because you wanted a higher post.

[Aliyev] [laughs] There is a great deal of such talk. It is true that such things are being said. But, I repeat that I came here not to assume a post but to solve this problem. First I have to find a way to settle this problem, and then if they give me the post needed to find a solution I will accept it.

[Cubukcu] Which position will enable you to solve it more easily?

[Aliyev] I would not like to state this now. [laughs] I would not say which position. However, if there is a need for me at this difficult moment for Azerbaijan, I would occupy a position that would give me authority, possibilities and legal latitude to the degree I want.

[Cubukcu] What are the causes for the Gyandzha incidents in your opinion, and who is responsible for them?

[Aliyev] Both sides are responsible for them; both the state and the other side. However, which side is more responsible, I cannot say now.

[Cubukcu] Why is the state responsible?

[Aliyev] Because the state amassed angry units there, there was shooting, blood was shed, and fratricide ensued. Here, the state is responsible.

[Aliyev] If the present authorities, including Elchibey, do not resign, would the rebellion or the movement spread further in Azerbaijan?

[Aliyev] I believe that if a decision is not adopted as soon as possible, this movement will spread.

Aliyev-Guseynov Talks Said 'Not a Success'

NC1406164293 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English 1340 GMT 14 Jun 93

["Talks Between Geydar Aliyev and Surat Guseynov Were Not a Success"—ASSA-IRADA headline]

[Text] Baku 14.06.93 (ASSA-IRADA)—Deputy S. Guseynov Aypara Aliyev told ASSA-IRADA, that today during the talks Surat Guseynov asked Geydar Aliyev as aksakal [elder statesman] to tell President Elchibey, that tomorrow June 15, time to meet Gyandzha residents' demands is running out. These demands were sounded at the meeting held in town today. They are the same: resignation of President Elchibey and summon the session of Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet. S. Guseynov asked G. Aliyev to persuade the president to fulfill them. In afternoon G. Aliyev left Gyandzha.

Aliyev Interviewed on Talks

LD1406193693 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Report by correspondent Mais Mamedov from Gyandzha, including recorded interview with Geydar Aliyev, chairman of Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic National Assembly; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The situation in the republic of Azerbaijan is still highly unpredictable. Our correspondent has just returned from Gyandzha.

[Mamedov] Talks between Geydar Aliyev and Colonel Surat Guseynov, which lasted nearly through the night, and ended as late as noon today. Guseynov's detachments control part of Azerbaijan's western regions. The head of the Nakhichevan parliament arrived in Gyandzha at the request of the president on a peace-brokering mission. Both sides refused to comment on the outcome of the meeting. The promised news conference did not materialize either. It is obvious that not all the barriers of distrust have been overcome.

Geydar Aliyev visited the area of the fratricidal conflict, and met and talked with witnesses to the tragedy.

[Mamedov to Aliyev] Have any paths toward mutual understanding been found?

[Aliyev] It has been very hard so far. Very hard indeed. The situation is extremely complicated, and the main thing is that until now there have been no conditions for an objective investigation. It is because those people who committed crimes took precautions to prevent these crimes from being revealed. Therefore, the situation here is extremely tense and difficult. But we are working toward this.

Aliyev Said Aiming at 'Seizing Power'

NC1406193793 Istanbul TURKIYE in Turkish 13 Jun 93 p 5

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] **What Is Aliyev's Aim**

The former Communist leader Geydar Aliyev, who was offered the post of premier by President Abulfaz Elchibey to overcome the escalating political crisis that started in Gyandzha, said that his contacts thus far have inspired him with no hope of resolving the crisis.

It is being claimed that Aliyev is intentionally speaking despondently and that his real aim is to leave Elchibey outside of developments.

According to political observers, by summoning the "Supreme Soviet," with Elchibey exerting every effort to prevent its convocation, Aliyev is aiming at seizing power and subduing Elchibey.

To substantiate their assessment, observers draw attention to the following words of Aliyev: "If the deputies ask for the convocation of the old Supreme Soviet which was under Communist domination, then that Supreme Soviet will convene."

It is considered possible that the present regime in Azerbaijan might change if the Supreme Soviet reconvenes.

As is known, in May 1992 the Supreme Soviet attempted, with a sudden decision, to restore to power Ayaz Mutalibov, who was deposed by a popular revolt lead by the People's Front. With a bloodless popular movement in Baku, Mutalibov was deposed and the legislative activity of the Supreme Soviet was terminated.

Presidential Aide: Guseynov Intends To Be Leader

NC1506112993 Baku TURAN in English 1001 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Baku, 15 Jun (TURAN)—According to the information, received by TURAN agency this morning, insurgent advanced detachments are on their old positions in Adzhikabul district 120 km in the south-east of Baku. Within 5-10 km from them are situated government forces.

As it is known, today the term of ultimatum, presented by Surat Guseynov to the government, is coming to an end. The main Surat Guseynov's demand is the resignation of the president and government. Otherwise, S. Guseynov threatens with further pushing toward to Baku and taking power in the country.

As one of TURAN correspondents, being tonight in Adzhikabul, informed, warring parties were not going to make compromises.

As it was known today, at 15 o'clock, President Elchibey and Geydar Aliyev are expected to make a speech at

Milli Mejlis emergency session. It was known, that the consultations between Geydar Aliyev and President Elchibey had been holding for the whole last night.

As a high-rank president apparatus assistant, speaking on condition of anonymity, informed TURAN agency, Surat Guseynov told Geydar Aliyev, that he was intended to be the leader of Azerbaijan and he would make no compromises.

In this situation a lot depend on the position, that will take the opposition with Etibar Mamedov and Geydar Aliyev himself. In case of their alliance with Elchibey and loyality to the president army, one can hope on the bloodless come out of the crisis. In all other cases further aggravation of the situation will sure to lead to the bloodshed.

Gyandzha Said 'Calm'; Guseynov Interviewed

PM1506082393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jun 93 First Edition pp 1, 2

[Sokhbet Mamedov report: "Baku Authorities Call on Geydar Aliyev To Eradicate the Threat of Civil War"]

[Text] Baku-Gyandzha-Baku—For virtually the whole of Monday [14 June] night talks continued between Surat Guseynov, whom the authorities have named the "rebel colonel," and Nakhichevan parliament head Geydar Aliyev. He arrived in Gyandzha on a peace mission on 13 Juen. However, on the eve of his arrival, a rally was held here at which, once again, demands were voiced for the resignation of Azerbaijan's leadership, including the president, and for an extraordinary Republic Supreme Soviet session to be convened.

Last Sunday, however, members of the Azerbaijan National Assembly were hastily invited to an extraordinary sitting. The reason for its convocation was a statement the day before by Parliamentary Speaker Isa Kamberov about his resignation. Given that the parliament granted his request without any hesitation, it can be surmised that this decision was the result of intensive behind-the-scenes consultations on the matter. So it is that yet another element of Colonel Surat Guseynov's demands has been fulfilled.

Thirty-four-year-old Surat Guseynov is not a military man. Before the Karabakh events flared up, he was the director of the Yevlakh Wool Factory. In the period leading up to the outbreak of the Armenian-Azerbaijan conflict, he took an active part in the material provision of the newly re-formed national army. Surat Guseynov's services did not pass unnoticed, and last year, by edict of President Elchibey, several posts were entrusted to him simultaneously. He became the president's plenipotentiary representative in Nagorno-Karabakh, Azerbaijan's deputy prime minister, and commander of the corps which liberated the Geranboy and Agdere regions of Nagorno-Karabakh last summer. For this operation Surat Guseynov earned the republic's highest decoration—National Hero of Azerbaijan. The military rank of colonel was also bestowed on him. According to several military experts, Colonel Guseynov has shown outstanding capability in military matters. The corps commander's authority increased with every passing day. To all appearances, this became the reason for the emergence of a certain friction in his relations with the republic Defense Ministry leadership.

The finishing touches were put to this confrontation by the Azerbaijan Army's misfortunes on the Agdere front at the beginning of this year—attempts were made, on the initiative of the APF [People's Front of Azerbaijan], to link the defeat to the name of S. Guseynov. This was followed by a presidential edict on his release from all posts occupied by him, and his appointment as general director of the state wool concern, which has been newly refounded. But it turned out that Surat Guseynov was not fated to take up his new position, and the official authorities claim that the 709th Unit, which remained loyal to him, to all intents and purposes refused to take orders from the Defense Ministry, which in turn led to the Gyandzha events.

In an exclusive interview for IZVESTIYA, Colonel Guseynov said that the republic authorities in Gyandzha all but unleashed a fratricidal war.

"The purpose of this operation, which involved subunits from six combat arms of the Azerbaijan Armed Forces, was either isolation or, indeed, my physical destruction," S. Guseynov said. "I do not feel responsible for the bloodshed. It is on the conscience of the republic leadership, which tried to resolve the problem by force. In civilized states, the leadership would resign in such cases. While insisting on this, I also demand that legal proceedings be instigated against those responsible for the bloodshed, and that an extraordinary session of the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet be convened, which will give a political evaluation of the republic leadership's actions. Unless my demands are fulfilled 15 June, it will be incumbent on me personally to realize them using all acceptable methods."

Surat Guseynov gave this interview to IZVESTIYA's correspondent in Gyandzha, at the so-called guest residence where his headquarters are temporarily located. Despite reports that "chaos reigns in the city, the red flag is flying over the barracks of the 709th Unit, and the rebel colonel's troop subunits are moving toward Baku," as a witness I can assert: Nothing of the sort is happening. On the contrary, a calm atmosphere reigns in Gyandzha, all state services are functioning, and industrial enterprises and trade organizations are working. But all this is merely a surface tranquility. Behind it, tremendous tension can be felt, which boils over at the rallies which are held almost daily in front of the building of the city executive organ of power. In many ways, this well-fueled emotional upsurge is, as I noted, a reaction to the subjective reporting of the Gyandzha events by official Baku.

Meanwhile, last Saturday a meeting took place between the deputies' investigative commission set up by the republic parliament, and Surat Guseynov. During the conversation, as meeting participants note, S. Guseynov promised to create all the necessary conditions for the commission to hold an objective inquiry. At the same time, he stipulated one condition: The commission must pronounce an objective judgment on the Gyandzha events.

Evidently S. Guseynov was forced into this move by the fact that Baku may compel members of the commission to alter their decision. However, forecasting the future development of events, it is possible to conclude that these fears are unfounded—Geydar Aliyev, chairman of the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic Supreme Assembly, has already stepped into the primary role in resolving the existing confrontation.

Aliyev, holding intensive consultations with the heads of diplomatic missions in Azerbaijan, leaders of political parties, and representatives of the public in the republic, refrained from making any official statements before Sunday's extraordinary parliamentary sitting. Addressing the deputies in parliament, however, where he is tipped for the post of chairman, he stressed once again that President Abulfaz Elchibey personally and representatives of the public in the republic had invited him to Baku to participate in solving this complex problem.

"In doing so," G. Aliyev stated, "I will make the final decision once I have traveled to Gyandzha without further delay, and once I have met there with Surat Guseynov." He invited journalists to join him on the trip, at the same time refusing the services of deputies who expressed a desire to accompany him on the journey. With this, Geydar Aliyev left for Gyandzha.

Analyzing this move by the wily politician, experts believe that G. Aliyev is in fact carefully paving his way to the post of parliamentary speaker. It is to him that people have turned at a time of great crisis for the republic—what is more, this has been done unanimously, including by his political opponents. So it can be said in advance that Geydar Aliyev's trip to Gyandzha will disarm S. Guseynov, who, observers believe, is not as strong in politics and, moreover, he likes Geydar Aliyev.

So it is that the capacity in which G. Aliyev will return to Baku will depend on the results of the talks in Gyandzha. If he persuades S. Guseynov to conclude a peace, then before long the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet will approve G. Aliyev as its new chairman. In this case, according to journalists, Etibar Mamedov, leader of the National Independence of Azerbaijan Party, will be tasked with leading the Cabinet of Ministers. If the talks are not crowned with success, which is unlikely, then G. Aliyev will return to Nakhichevan once again.

Activities of Gyandzha 'Insurgents' Reported

NC1406181493 Baku TURAN in English 1421 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Baku, June 14 (TURAN)—The advanced detachment of Gyandzha insurgents, that captured this morning Adzhikabul city, are going to seize regular district-al-Bayramly city. This city located 15-20 km in the south of Adzhikabul and it is a big industrial centre of the Republic. The biggest in Azerbaijan hydro-electric power station is situated here. TURAN agency was informed about it from military source.

Spreaded in the capital of Azerbaijan rumours, that Azerbaijan national army managed to disarm insurgents detachment in Adzhikabul, were not confirmed. Government forces are going on observing President Elchibeys order to abstain from any military actions.

Movements Detailed

NC1506100293 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English 0920 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Names as received]

[Text] Baku, 15.06.93 (ASSA-IRADA)—Heading to Baku Surat Guseynov supporters ASSA-IRADA was told by Gudrat Bagiyev who was the mayor assistant of Ali-Bayramly up to yesterday the mayors of Adzhikabul and Ali-Bayramly newly appointed by S. Guseynov supporters started renewing of [words indistinct]. He added that S. Guseynov detachment of 100 machine-gunners is near the residential area of Navai that is on the way to Baku. On coming back from Gyandzha the journalists saw that near Shemakha town there was concentrations of combat gear of governmental and APF [Azerbaijani People's Front] troops. The trenches were digged and the fortifictions erected. The governmental troops and the APF armed formations also took positions near Primorsk village 40 km away to the south from Baku and near Alyat in Gobustan province (62 km away from Baku).

ASSA-IRADA was told by MP Shadman Guseynov one of the leaders of the Azerbaijan National Independence party and advocate of S. Guseynov this morning from Gyandzha today the term of meeting the demands of the rebels on the president resignation and the calling of the parliament session is being expired. If no reply is given one cannot foresee the consequences said S. Guseynov. Now everything depends on God and the sense of the president.

Regional Leaders Removed

NC1506111693 Baku TURAN in English 1001 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Baku, 15 Jun (TURAN)—This morning S. Guseynov's mutinous forces removed the head of the executive power in town Sheki, that is in the south-west of Azerbaijan. The town Sheki is 400 km of Baku.

According to the latest reports, S. Guseynov's armed supporters push from Sheki toward region centers Oguz and Gabele. In all the above-mentioned regions the removal of the legal power goes on without armed conflicts.

Rebel Troops Disarmed

NC1506114393 Paris AFP in English 1056 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Baku, June 15 (AFP)—The Azerbaijani presidency predicted Tuesday [15 June] that an insurgency rocking the country would be put down without violence after some 50 rebel troops loyal to warlord Surat Guseynov were disarmed and brought here for questioning.

The troops were part of a renegade unit of several hundred backed by armoured vehicles and missile launchers which advanced Sunday to within less than 100 kilometers (62 miles) of the capital.

The fifty were disarmed without a struggle, said a spokesman for President Abulfaz Elchibey, who Monday accused the unit of trying to stage a "military coup."

The spokesman said: "The crisis will be resolved without violence."

Meanwhile several sources indicated police reinforcements had been deployed around the city. [passage omitted]

People's Front Against Concessions to Rebels

LD1406173293 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1555 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sevindzh Abdullayeva and Viktor Shulman]

[Text] Baku, 14 Jun—"Any concessions by the authorities to the rebels will henceforth be regarded by the Azerbaijan People's Front [APF] as defeatist, hostile actions directed against the independence of the republic," a statement by this influential sociopolitical organizations says. It was distributed today at a rally outside the building of the president's apparatus. In the opinion of the authors of the document, despite the fact that the events in Gyandzha could, from every point of view, be regarded as "a rebellion against the state, nevertheless the president, government, and parliament of the republic alike have embarked on a peaceful settlement of the conflict, making full use of all the available opportunities for this."

However, as the APF statement stresses, the opposing side sees all this as weakness on the part of the authorities. Having seized a number of rayons of the republic, it is now aiming to take Baku and make the legitimately-elected president resign by force of arms. In this connection the People's Front considers it important to state that "fulfilment of the rebels' demands cannot be comprehended by either the Azerbaijani people or the world democratic public."

"Making all its forces available to the government, the APF demands that the most resolute measures be taken to crush the rebellion and defend Azerbaijani statehood and calls on the people to support them," the statement says.

Meanwhile, as has just been reported by a confidential source, the head of the Nakhichevan parliament, Geydar Aliyev, has returned from Gyandzha to Baku. Today, he is expected to meet Azerbaijani President Abulfaz Elchibey.

Political Leadership, Parties Hold Consultations

NC1406180493 Baku TURAN in English 1421 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Baku, June 14 (TURAN)—Today in the headquarter of the [Azerbaijan] People's Front [APF] the consultations of Azerbaijan political leadership with the representatives of different political parties and movements are [words indistinct] consultations are passing behind the closed doors. As one executive collaborator of APF apparatus, speaking on condition of anonymity, informed TURAN agency, the meeting discussed the ways to come out of the crisis. "This guidance of People's Front makes everything possible to avert bloodshed in Azerbaijan", he said.

Baku Rally Ends, Organizers Threatening To Reassemble

LD1406210093 Baku AZERTAC in Russian 2000 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Baku, 14 Jun—This evening the events in Gyandzha were the main subject on national television, and the tone was set by an interview with lawyer Matlab Mutalimov, chairman of the deputies commission investigating those events. He and other members of the commission present in the studio informed the public that the commission was in Gyandzha with the aim of gathering information on what occurred there on 4 June. It includes representatives of the town. Without making an assessment of the drama that had been played out there, M. Mutalimov, who had until recently held the post of deputy procurator general of Azerbaijan, stressed that "the investigation is still not complete, and any rash conclusions might only aggravate the situation in the republic." He also reported that the commission is returning to Gyandzha to continue its work.

The rally by the People's Front of Azerbaijan being held outside the building of the presidential apparatus has ended. But its organizers have reserved the right to reassemble their supporters tomorrow.

Karabakh Deputy Says CSCE Incapable of Solving Crisis

LD1406153393 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1040 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan, 14th Jun—The CSCE is totally incapable of solving problems such as the Karabakh one, believes Zoriy Balayan, one of the initiators of the Karabakh Movement and an influential deputy of the Nagorno-Karabakh Supreme Soviet. In an interview to an ITAR-TASS correspondent today, Balayan expressed the view that the CSCE had forsaken one of its own fundamental principles laid down in its Final Act, the one that gives peoples the right to decide their own fate, in favor of another, the principle of inviolability of borders. Balayan claims that by doing so the CSCE has breached another of its principles, the one that stipulates that none of its provisions must be applied to the detriment of any other provisions.

In Deputy Balayan's view, the CSCE "has unfortunately become a speculative lever in the hands of certain states harboring tendentious designs." He also stated that on the strength of historical and moral reasons Turkey had no right to act as an arbitrator in the Karabakh conflict. In this connection the deputy recalled Turkey's annexation of Russia's Kars oblast in 1921 and of Cyprus in 1974. In his words, these acts were forgotten and have not been condemned by the international community until this day.

Therefore, Z. Balayan went on, Nagorno-Karabakh can only respond to the recent CSCE initiative if it receives firm and reliable guarantees of safe existence for its people. Meanwhile, the CSCE cannot provide such guarantees since it has no power to bring any influence to bear on Azerbaijan, the deputy believes. In his words, one should not treat Kelbadzhar (a town in Azerbaijan) as a geographical location, but rather as a site crammed full with Azeri weapon emplacements, arms, and military formations. Z. Balayan pointed out that it would be naive to assume that the CSCE can guarantee the existence of the Lachin corridor linking Karabakh with Armenia, after the Karabakh forces are withdrawn from Kelbajar, as required by the CSCE initiative.

Karabakh Leader Sends Message to CSCE's Rafaelli

LD1506074993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0657 GMT 15 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan June 15 TASS—The leadership of Nagorno-Karabakh on Monday [14 June] night agreed with the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) initiative concerning a settlement of the Karabakh problem. This is what Karen Baburyan, deputy speaker of the Nagorno-Karabakh parliament, who became an acting chief of parliament, notified Italian diplomat Mario Rafaelli, chairman of the CSCE Minsk group, upon signing a letter and a time-table suggested by the CSCE.

In a covering letter, the leadership of Nagorno-Karabakh suggested that the implementation of the time-table be postponed for one month, considering complications of the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh in view of the acceptance of the CSCE initiative and the resultant change of power in the republic and in connection with the fact that several military units went out of control.

"Such a postponement will enable us to stabilise the situation and ensure the fulfilment of our obligations," the new Karabakh leader emphasised.

At the same time the message conveyed concern over the extremely explosive situation in Azerbaijan, which, in the opinion of Stepanakert, can lead to unpredictable consequences.

Considering that Azerbaijan's areas that neighbour on Nagorno-Karabakh are being controlled by the armed opposition that fights against government troops, Baburyan requested a CSCE confirmation of the readiness and ability of the Azerbaijani leadership to meet its commitments to implement the initiative of the CSCE Minsk group.

In conclusion Baburyan reaffirmed the Nagorno-Karabakh leadership's striving for peace and support of the peace initiatives of the international community. "I hope that by acting together we shall achieve the long-awaited peace," he wrote.

Presidential Adviser Welcomes Karabakh Decision

NC1506112293 Baku TURAN in English 1001 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] Baku, 15 Jun (TURAN)—Azerbaijan welcomes Karabakh Armenians decision to accept the CSCE Minsk group peaceful initiative, declared President Adviser for Foreign Policy Vafa Gulizade in his yesterday's statement on television.

According to the words of adviser, "Karabakh Armenians acceptance of peaceful plan of adjustment gives real chance to establish peace in the region and to put an end to this senseless war."

Vafa Gulizade noted, that the acceptance of peaceful plan took place after Armenian president L. Ter-Petrosyan visit to Khankendi [Stepanakert]. His visit had led to the leader of Karabakh Armenians Georgiy Petrosyan resignation and the peaceful plan of adjustment was signed by another person.

According to Gulizade words, June 15-16 Armenia and Azerbaijan will make several statements in accordance with the urgent measures plan. As peaceful plan was accepted by Karabakh four days late, the parties agreed,

that the statements of Armenian side about their intention to implement the withdrawal from Kelbadzharskiy and the statement of Azerbaijan to show restraint when returning security forces to Kelbadzharskiy had to be heard June 15-16.

At the end of his statement Vafa Gulizade stressed, that the world community recognized Nagorno-Karabakh to be an integral part of Azerbaijan. He also expressed his hope, that all occupated territories of the country would be soon returned.

Georgia

Shevardnadze Receives U.S. Congressman

LD1406173993 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Russian 1500 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] On 13 June, Eduard Shevardnadze, chairman of the Georgian parliament and head of state, received U.S. Congressman Peter Evans, who is also an expert on the (?WOC) program. The aim of the (?WOC) program, which is being financed by the U.S. Congress, is to extend technical aid to promising enterprises operating in the agro-industrial sphere of various countries, to create joint ventures with them, allocate investments and elaborate recommendations for legislative bodies. Mr. Peter Evans told the head of state about the results of the work he had done in Georgia.

Abkhazian Forces Guarantee Safety for Humanitarian Aid

LD1506064493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0615 GMT 15 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Irina Shegoleva]

[Text] Sochi June 15 TASS—The commander of Abkhazian military formations deployed in the direction of Ochamchira, Ilya Kichmaria, has given a guarantee of safety to a humanitarian action to be carried out by the Russian Committee for Emergency Situations (RCES), ITAR-TASS learned from the RCES press service.

The military command of both sides has ordered its troops to cease fire for the period of carrying out the humanitarian action, the same source said.

Three Civilians Killed in Sukhumi Shelling

LD1406155193 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1300 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] The Georgian Armed Forces press center in Abkhazia says it was relatively calm in Sukhumi this morning.

At 2245 yesterday Georgian troops received an order to cease fire along the whole front line in connection with talks on the resumption of humanitarian aid deliveries to the conflict zone. However, at 2300 Abkhazian armed units opened heavy fire from Grad installations and howitzers. The shells exploded in residential areas of Sukhumi destroying a large number of houses. Three civilians were killed and three wounded.

Last night Abkhazian armed units attempted to launch an offensive in the direction of the villages of [word indistinct], Merkula, and Tamysh in Ochamchire rayon. The attack was repelled after fire was returned. The heavy fighting lasted until about 0500 this morning.

Georgian Troops Shell Abkhazian Villages

LD1506123593 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 15 Jun 93

[Text] The first stage of a large-scale operation to provide humanitarian aid to the population and to evacuate civilians from the area of hostilities begins in the region of the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict. Here to tell us about the situation on the frontlines is our correspondent Kristian Bzhaniya.

[Bzhaniya] Fighting is continuing on all fronts in Abkhazia. At the Gumista line near Sukhumi the Georgian side used artillery fire last night. The republic's Defense Ministry reports that General Nadareishvili's detachments were shelling the village of (Shizkhlara) and the bridge over the Gumista in the village of Eshera from 2140 until 0115. Abkhazian Army subunits did not return fire during the night.

The situation was more difficult in Ochamchirskiy Rayon, where Georgian detachments are well armed. The villages of Pokvesh, (Basla), Labra, (Katekhabla), Merkula, and Dzhgerda were being shelled throughout the night with mortars and howitzers. Abkhazia's Defense Ministry claims that the republic's Armed Forces did not respond to the shelling.

In is in these conditions that the humanitarian action under the aegis of the United Nations has to take place. However, by 1130 there was no news of the start of the action. The only thing that is known is that General Kudinov, representative of the Russian State Committee for Emergencies, is to arrive in Gudauta.

Attempt Made To Assassinate Russian Deputy Commander

LD1406124193 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] In Akhalkalaki, in the south of Georgia, an attempt has been made on the life of Lieutenant General (Iosif Aganyan), deputy commander of the group of Russian forces in Trancaucasus.

According to the Yerevan newspaper YERKIR, this happened last Thursday in the hostel of a divisional garrison which the general was inspecting. A mine was planted in a corridor of the hostel, but the criminals did not know that the general had gone elsewhere. The explosion caused extensive damage to the hostel. There

is no information about casualties. An investigation into the incident has been opened.

S. Ossetian Leader Concerned Over Russia-Georgia Talks

PM1506095193 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian p 2

[Galina Bilyalitdinova report on press conference given by South Ossetian Prime Minister Oleg Teziyev; place and date not given: "Mountain of Problems, Valley of Tears"]

[Text] South Ossetian Prime Minister Oleg Teziyev did not hide his concern from the journalists. Its cause—the forthcoming negotiations between Russia and Georgia. This meeting could, in his words, worsen an economic and political situation in the republic which is already complicated.

"We are experiencing great difficulties," he says, "in our attempt to arrange banking relations between South Ossetia and Russia. Unlike Georgia we do not intend to leave the ruble area. But enterprises are just marking time—there is no growth in production."

[Unidentified correspondent] What specifically do you expect from Russia?

[Teziyev] First and foremost long-term preferential credits, and the setting up of banking facilities. It is not possible to live this way, isolated from Russia.

[Correspondent] On whom are you counting most of all—the parliamentary or the presidential structures?

[Teziyev] I will be open with you and say that people understand and sympathize with us, but these are as a rule people at a slightly lower level than ourselves. Practically speaking it is impossible for us to reach agreement at the same level.

[Correspondent] What initiatives has South Ossetia put to the Georgian leadership, specifically Shevardnadze?

[Teziyev] Negotiations have taken place between us on more than one occasion. But Tbilisi's concept only touched on economic problems. Nevertheless, not one of the points mentioned has been fulfilled in 18 months.

[Correspondent] What political news can you report to our readership?

[Teziyev] A communist party has again been organized in South Ossetia...

Police To Take Measures Against Destabilizing Acts

NC1406154693 Yerevan SNARK in English 1442 GMT 14 Jun 93

["The Georgian Police Is Going To Toughen the Sanctions"—SNARK headline]

[Text] Tbilisi, June 14 (SNARK)—Today the head of the Georgian Department for Internal Affairs David Zeikidze has spoken on the Georgian TV. He has informed of the meeting of the Georgian police leaders which took place today. The policemen came to a decision to meet on June 16 and to invite the members of the Georgian parliament, the representatives of the government, leaders of different parties, the representatives of the opposition to the meeting. They are going to clear up the situation which is closely connected with the stability in Republic. Those who prevent to establish the order in Georgia are the enemies of the Republic and all the hard measures can be taken against them, Zeikidze said to SNARK's reporter.

Deputy Finance Minister Discusses Budget

AU1406131693 Tbilisi SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA in Russian 1 Jun 93 p 3

[Interview with Deputy Finance Minister G. Yerkomaishvili by Spartak Nikolaishvili; place and date not given: "How To Emerge From the Crisis? If We Could At Least Make Ends Meet"]

[Text] That one should live according to one's means is an old truth that applies to both individual families and the state as a whole. Unfortunately, given that the economic crisis has now affected all spheres of our life without exception, it is practically impossible to adhere to this golden rule. The process of the further devaluation of money is menacingly on the increase with each passing day. Prices are rising catastrophically, which necessitates the adoption of urgent measures aimed at the social protection of the population, but each increase in wages, pensions, and grants in conditions of an acute shortage of financial resources aggravates further still the disproportion in the balance between income and expenditure. It is clear that covering the enormous budget deficit by means of credits from the National Bank and putting into circulation additional amounts of monetary coupons is not the best way by far and is fraught with great danger. In order to avoid hyperinflation, it is necessary to look for other sources for normalizing the budget. This is what was under discussion in the conversation between the SG [SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA] correspondent and the Deputy Finance Minister G. Yerkomaishvili.

[Nikolaishvili] **Any forecast today is highly problematic. The economic situation is changing in an unpredictable manner. Therefore, it has certainly become extremely difficult to plan the budget. How is the implementation of the budget taking shape in the Republic? What trends above all characterize this?**

[Yerkomaishvili] When the preliminary results of implementing the Republic's national budget for 1992 and January-February of this year were discussed at a session of the Cabinet of Ministers, it was pointed out that, in 1992, budget revenue amounted in total to 19.1662 billion rubles or 102.6 percent of the plan. At the same

time, we succeeded in reducing expenditure by 2.3127 billion rubles. In this way, the budget deficit turned out to be much less than had been envisaged earlier: 25.6054 billion rubles instead of 28.409 billion. Of course, this does not give us grounds to celebrate. Nevertheless, the gap between the revenue and expenditure part of the budget is fairly encouraging, all the more so as set tasks pertaining to most important revenues have not been fulfilled.

This year, the Republic's financial situation is also taking shape under strained conditions. Although, according to the results of the first quarter, revenue received has amounted to 1.7 billion rubles more than was expected, prosperity is a long way off as the overall budget deficit for the first quarter amounted to 5.7 billion rubles.

[Nikolaishvili] Nevertheless, do you think that it is possible in the present situation to stabilize to some extent the economic situation and put a halt to negative processes?

[Yerkomaishvili] Not to mention the fact that it is necessary, in the first place, to achieve political stabilization and a peaceful resolution of the Abkhazian conflict, it is extremely important to regenerate production. I, for example, was truly pleased to hear recently that, after a long enforced stoppage, the Chiatura mines have again started production and are increasing their output, as is the ferroalloy factory in Zestafoni. The sooner we overcome the slump and breathe life into our moribund enterprises and are able to get reform going, the sooner will we succeed in emerging from the crisis and normalizing the budget. It is difficult here to overestimate the efforts being made by the Georgian leadership and Head of State E. Shevardnadze in developing multilateral contacts with Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Armenia, and other former Union republics and leading foreign countries.

[Nikolaishvili] **Five months of this year are behind us. Evidently, when drawing up the budget for the remainder of the year, the results of the past and also the expected price changes should be taken into account.**

[Yerkomaishvili] Absolutely. This will affect, above all, expenditure on the social protection of the population. As the report of the Committee for Economics, Statistics, and Analysis shows, retail prices in January-April of this year have risen by a factor of 12.4 compared with the corresponding period last year and the population has spent 13.8 billion rubles more than then on the same products. Therefore, the task has been set of compensating for the price increases through the national budget so that the population can withstand galloping inflation. This requires considerable resources and the ministry is currently engaged in searching actively for sources in order to cover this expenditure within the framework of the budget.

[Nikolaishvili] It is known that the Republic's Parliament recently adopted the Law on the Budget System. What underlies the new approaches to the management of finances that are laid out in this document?

[Yerkomaishvili] The main feature of the law is that it reinforces the most important aspect today, that of the principle of local self-administration and the growing economic independence of the regions. The government and parliament, in accordance with the law, will henceforth form only a republican budget and, at the same time, will determine the economic rates of deductions from state taxes into the local budget while the local budgets themselves will be elaborated independently by the bodies of power in the regions and they will organize their implementation. Moreover, the rates are envisaged to remain stable for a number of years (in this case for 1993-95), which will guarantee the optimal form of economic management in the localities. After all, the regions were previously unprotected from the center and resources were frequently redistributed and those who worked well were the winners while the remainder were the losers.

The new method of drawing up the budget was already successfully tested in the Republic in the form of an experiment in 1989-90 and made a good showing. Now, local bodies of power are acting with more initiative and showing greater responsibility when setting about drawing up the budget and are more interested in the revenues coming into it and their purposeful utilization.

The law also provides for appropriate measures enabling assistance to be given by the center to local bodies of power in the event of there being an imbalance between incomes and expenditure in their budgets. The government and parliament will establish limits on long-term bank credits to each local budget in order to remove disproportions.

All this will undoubtedly create favorable conditions for stimulating local initiative and enterprise and, in the final analysis, will result in an overall strengthening of the Republic's economy.

Gamsakhurdia Supporters Set Up Customs Points

AU1506160293 Tbilisi DRONI in Georgian 5 Jun 93 p 3

[IPRINDA report: "Information"]

[Text] It is already five days now since the Fund for the Restoration of Samegrelo [rayon in western Georgia loyal to ex-President Zviad Gamsakhurdia] was set up in Zugdidi on the initiative of Loti Kobalia [leader of the armed formation supporting the ex-president]. In connection with this, customs points have been set up at the entrance to and exit from the city, particularly along the highways, where a levy of 10 percent is being imposed on goods being brought into and taken out of Zugdidi. As the Zviadists state, these measures represent the first step aimed at collecting resources for the fund. The customs points have aroused the displeasure of the population, as almost nothing is now being brought into

Zugdidi from other rayons. This information was confirmed by Irakli Kadagishvili, chief of the Customs Service, who stated that law enforcement agencies will deal with these unauthorized customs points.

Press Group Protests Beating of Journalist

AU1406185593 Tbilisi NOVAYA GAZETA in Russian No. 19 (48), Jun 93 p 2

[Unattributed article: "They're Beating Up Our People!"]

[Text] **It has been known for a long time—that is to say, for as long as it has been in existence here—that the free press is far from being to everyone's liking here. However, that this dislike can be expressed in the way that it was toward Giorgiy Kalandadze, correspondent for the newspaper REZONANS, on 8 June is not entirely typical even of our, let us say, unique society.**

In its 5-6 June issue, the paper published material whose author did not refer in very flattering terms to Vice Premier Margiani who, according to information received, has become vigorously active in getting Georgia to join the "CIS" process. Part of this information was received directly from Vano Khvibliani, head of the vice premier's staff.

On 8 June, Kalandadze was again sent by the editorial board to the Cabinet of Ministers. Khvibliani invited him into his office where, in the presence of Soso Tkebuchava, head of the press center of the Cabinet of Ministers, he began to beat up the journalist. The head of the press center himself not only did not intercede on behalf of his colleague, but also promised to confiscate his pass into the government building. Kalandadze was obliged to leave this hospitable establishment and, together with his colleagues, went for a medical examination, which confirmed the fact that he had been beaten.

On 9 June, a statement from the staff of Vice Premier Margiani appeared, in which this fact was completely refuted. Evidently, the Procurator's Office, to which the victim has submitted an application requesting that criminal proceedings be instigated, will have the final say.

The "Free Press" association has issued a statement in connection with this in which it is stated that, if there is not an immediate and appropriate response from the republic's leaders to the act of assault and battery upon the journalist, those organs of the press belonging to the association will reserve the right to resort to an extraordinary form of protest. True, both Prime Minister Sigua and head of state Shevardnadze have already expressed their concern and regret over what happened.

Human Rights Group's Condemnation

AU1406185693 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA in Georgian 10 Jun 93 p 1

[Statement issued by the Georgian Committee for Human Rights and Interethnic Relations in Tbilisi on 9 June]

[Text] The Georgian Committee for Human Rights and Interethnic Relations, as stated more than once, condemns acts of terror and violence against representatives of the press.

The act that took place yesterday in the building of the Cabinet of Ministers—the physical retribution carried out against a representative of the newspaper REZONANS—not only violates the law on the freedom of the press but also exceeds the elementary norms of behavior of a representative of a civilized nation.

The committee states most categorically that an end should be put to such acts once and for all. It is time to create an atmosphere in Georgia in which representatives of the free press are given the means to carry out their normal professional activities, failing which it is futile to speak of democracy.

Tbilisi, 9 June 1993.

Estonia

Russian Delegation To Discuss Human, Civil Rights

WS1506075693 Tallinn BNS in English 1807 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Tallinn, June 14, BNS—A Russian Federation delegation representing its country in the Russo-Estonian commission checking compliance with the bilateral agreement on the fundamentals of relations has arrived in Tallinn on Monday [14 June]. It is led by lawmaker Nikolay Medvedev.

During its two-day stay, the team will meet with Estonia's President Lennart Meri, Chairman of State Assembly Ulo Nugis, and Minister Juri Luik, who leads Estonia's delegation to negotiations with Russia. Human and civil rights will be discussed. It will also travel to Narva and Sillamae with the predominantly Russian population.

Tallinn 'Failing' To Meet Agreement

WS1506075893 Tallinn BNS in English 2102 GMT 14 June 93

[Text] Tallinn, June 14, BNS—The Russian co-chairman of the bilateral commission for monitoring the agreement on the basic principles of relations between Estonia and Russia, Nikolay Medvedev, says Estonia is failing to fulfill the agreement.

Medvedev accused Estonia of violation of the agreement at today's meeting with the speaker of the Estonian Parliament, Ulo Nugis, a parliamentary spokesman told BNS. Medvedev, however, was unwilling to specify when asked by the parliament's speaker.

The Russian members of the commission at the meeting also tried to prove that Estonia is violating the human rights. Further discussions showed that the approach of either side to the issues of the human rights and of the civic rights were different.

The meeting was marked by tension and reciprocal pretensions. Nevertheless, both sides agreed that talks on additional agreements under the main treaty must continue.

The Russian members of the monitoring commission, who arrived in Estonia today, also met Estonian President Lennart Meri. Talks with the Estonian leader dealt with the possibilities to further develop relations between the two countries. Discussed were the legal aspects of Estonian-Russian relations as well as the problems of Russians living in Estonia.

The Estonian president earlier has suggested to use help by international mediators to overcome the standstill in talks between the countries. The Russian co-chairman of the commission said his country won't rule out the possibility of turning to international mediators after the possibilities offered by bilateral negotiations have been exhausted.

The commission is scheduled to visit Estonia's north-eastern region Tuesday.

The commission is headed from the Estonian side by Enn Leisson, a former MP.

'Practical' Help With Russian Pullout Pledged

WS1406084493 Tallinn BNS in English 1531 GMT 10 Jun 93

[Text] Tallinn, June 10, BNS—Estonia has pledged to give practical assistance to help Russia continue with its troop withdrawal, said Juri Luik, chief Estonian negotiator.

"Estonia understands that some issues of the practical kind may arise when Russia is pulling out its troops, even if there are no political problems," Luik told BNS. "Provided that no political pressure is exerted upon us, Estonia will agree to help Russia overcome these hardships."

The delegations at the talks Tuesday signed a protocol that may lead to an agreement on the deadline for the troop withdrawal.

According to the document, Russia must give Estonia a list by June 25 specifying "its needs" for ensuring its pullout of the troops. Estonia then has an unspecified amount of time to summarize the means that the country and its Western partners can to allocate for the Russian troop withdrawal. After that delegates expect to set the final deadline for the pullout.

As for other withdrawal issues, an agreement between Estonia and Russia on the withdrawal of Russian troops is almost ready.

Many countries have shown an interest in supporting Estonia financially in order to speed up the process of withdrawal, Luik said. But he added that the amounts of money can be specified only after detailed data has been provided.

The head of the Estonian delegation also met Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Anatoliy Adamishin in Moscow Wednesday. Luik said both parties at the meeting agreed that the withdrawal of Russian armed force units from Estonia is a key issue in improving the bilateral relations. "The Russian Foreign Ministry is interested in resolving this problem as quickly as possible," Luik said.

Luik and Adamishin also discussed the political situation in both countries. Luik added that the local elections law passed in Estonia was "not of the kind that the Russian institutions of power were waiting for. There are laws both in Estonia as well as in Russia that are not to the other party's liking."

Government Wants Free Trade Pact With Czech Republic

LD1406120393 Prague CTK in English 1136 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Tallinn, June 14—Estonia will strive to conclude a free trade agreement with the Czech Republic and other states of the Visegrad group, Alar Olljum, secretary general of the Estonian Foreign Ministry, has told CTK.

He sees good prospects for linking the emerging free trade zone of the Baltic countries (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) with the Visegrad four (the Czech and Slovak Republics, Hungary and Poland).

Estonia's interest was confirmed to CTK by Ladislav Hnat, commercial attache of the Czech embassy in Lithuania, resident in Riga, capital of Latvia.

He said that Estonian authorities had already proposed to the Czech party officially to start negotiations.

Estonia has concluded free trade agreements with Finland, Sweden and Norway, and is striving for them to be preserved after Finland's and Sweden's association with the EC. The foreign ministers of the two countries promised us to be fighting for the preservation of free trade with us after they had joined the EC, Olljum said.

He noted that Estonia could be directly linked to the EC and the Visegrad group through the Council of Baltic States which it is now presiding over and whose other members are Poland (Visegrad group) and Germany and Denmark (EC).

Parliament Considers Draft Law on Screening Foreigners

LD1406201393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1907 GMT 14 Jun 93

[By ITAR-TASS cprrespondent Albert Maloveryan]

[Text] Tallinn June 14 TASS—The draft "foreigners act", at present under consideration by Estonia's Parliament, will enable Russia repudiate Estonia at the forthcoming U.N. Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, Doctor Wello Pettaj, a Baltic state interethnic relations expert, said.

The draft "foreigners act", which is being debated in the Estonian state assembly, stipulates screening all non-citizens of the republic who settled here after June, 1940. This applies to all Russian-speaking community which constitutes almost 40 per cent of Estonia's present population.

According to Wello Pettaj, having become a member of the Council of Europe several weeks ago, Estonia has decided that it has been given a "green signal" to decolonize the republic by any means, without worrying as to what resonance it will receive in the world.

Minister Condemns Lack of Protection for Farmers

LD1106190993 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1600 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Agriculture Minister Jaan Leetsar said at a news conference today that the absence of any protection of the domestic market and the resulting imports into Estonia at artificially low prices will wipe out both the producer and any domestic competition. If the farmer does not live well, the city dweller will not live well either, stated the agriculture minister.

The ministry has proposed repeatedly to the government to introduce import quotas on wheat flour, eggs, and chickens, but the answer has always been that there can be no regulation because we have a free-market economy in Estonia, said Jaan Leetsar. Less than one-third of chicken farming still survives; the same is true of pig farming, while the milk industry barely keeps afloat.

Over the past six months, 60-70 million kroons' worth of goods from Russia have been imported, while Estonia's own production is sitting and waiting, and there are 3,000 unemployed people in Estonia. So, these are the first manifestations of the free-market economy, stated the agriculture minister.

Estonia does have production potential. Agricultural exports account for 18-20 percent of total exports.

Truckers Blockade Narva Border Post, Protest Corruption

WS1406080893 Tallinn BNS in English 1340 GMT 10 June 93

[Text] Tallinn, June 10, BNS—Tens of trucks barred the road to the Russian border crossing at Narva, northeast Estonia, today in a drivers' protest against sluggish work by Russian border guards and corrupt border officials.

As many as 50-60 heavy trucks are waiting to pass the border at Narva at the moment, and some have been waiting for several days. Smaller cars can cross the border easier, officials at the Estonian cordon in Narva told BNS.

Long queues are blamed on a Russian border guards decision to close the Ivanogrod checkpoint for the night.

"We decided to halt the large trucks on the town limits of Narva in order to avoid traffic jams in the center," Aare Evisalu, head of command at the Estonian Border Guard Department, told BNS.

Truck drivers blocked the road for a short time, demanding that representatives of the country's authorities arrive at the site, said Tarmo Uusorg, officer on duty in the cordon.

Edgar Aaro, the head of the Estonian Border Guard Department, has left for Narva.

Russian border guards closed the Ivanogrod checkpoint for the second successive night, because a power cable that was damaged in construction work at the checkpoint. The Estonian side was notified only a few hours prior to the closure.

"We couldn't continue checking the cars either, because letting a big number of trucks onto the bridge over Narva River would have been senseless," Eevisalu said.

"Local mafia" has been ready to take advantage of the situation, offering to help drivers "worm their way through" for 500 Estonian kroons or 300 Finnish marks, a driver said. Estonian Defense Police officials have started investigating the reported cases of blackmail.

Latvia

Latvian Way Announces Nominations for Posts

LD1406203293 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1300 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] A news conference was held at the House of Journalists today in order to report about the general meeting of the Latvian Way [election alliance], which took place last Saturday, and on its decisions. The political course of the Latvian Way was approved at the general meeting. A board consisting of 13 people was also elected there. The board will have the task of leading the Latvian Way faction within the Supreme Council and preparing a founding congress of the alliance which will take place in October this year.

Andrejs Pantelejevs was elected the chairman of the board, and Janis Vaivads, Indulis Berzins, and Valdis Pavlovskis will be his deputies.

Andrejs Pantelejevs, chairman of the board of the Latvian Way, has also named candidates who will be put forward by the Latvian Way for leading posts. Valdis Birkavs was nominated as president of ministers; Ojars Kehris as the member of the office of the president of ministers on economic reform issues; Maris Gailis, on state reform issues; and Egils Levits, on judiciary reform issues. Gunars Meierovics was nominated by the majority of votes a candidate for the state president's post.

As Andrejs Pantelejevs told the news conference that Meierovics' personality symbolizes the reunion of the Latvian nation and the restoration of the First Latvian Republic.

Anatolijs Gorbunovs was nominated as chairman of the Supreme Council.

These are (?open) posts which the Latvian Way would not like to give up in view of its promise to the electorate to undertake full responsibility for the process of economic, legal, and state reforms.

Here is a recording from the press conference.

[Begin recording] [First unidentified speaker] One of the main problems which exist in Latvia today is the lack of a consistent and effective apparatus of officials. It is impossible to carry out reforms without effective work by Latvian officials.

A group of persons who will be allowed to occupy positions in the state apparatus should be reconsidered. I think a question will arise in this connection on whether those who held high positions under the occupation regime can be allowed to occupy positions in the state apparatus in today's independent Latvia as officials of state departments. By introducing (?within six years) the Latvian civil service as a new institution to which officials will only be accepted after certain tests of their qualifications, it will be possible to strengthen the Latvian official apparatus and Latvia will have a small but effective apparatus of officials. [passage indistinct]

[Second unidentified speaker] We are once again stating that our main objective is to successfully implement economic reforms, the state reform, and the legal reform. The foundation for state property, not officials, will be dealing with state property. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

Names Candidates for Premier, President

MK1506091093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Jun 93 p 1

[DPA report under "In Brief" rubric: "Latvian Way Candidate Named"]

[Text] The Latvian Way coalition, which won in the recent parliamentary elections, named its candidate for the prime minister's office yesterday. He is former Vice Premier Valdis Birkavs. A candidate for the post of president was also named. The candidate is Gunars Meyerovems, head of the Latvian emigrees organization. Anatolijs Gorbunovs is likely to retain the office of parliament speaker.

Since the Latvian Way has secured 48 out of 100 seats in the new Seym, all the named candidates will be confirmed. The election-winning coalition has also published the future cabinet's first 100-day action program. One of its items provides for the passage of a law on citizenship. According to a draft law, those wishing to become Latvian citizens would be required to take an oath of loyalty to the republic, to have lived several years in it, and to speak Latvian. The government is expected to set an annual quota for those seeking Latvian citizenship.

Concern Over Forthcoming Russian Army Exercises

LD1406194693 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1700 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Aivars Vovers, deputy secretary of state of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on eastern matters, today invited Valeriy Nesterushin, counsellor at the Embassy

of the Russian Federation in Riga, to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia. Nesterushin was summoned in connection with exercises which Russian troops intend to carry out in Dobele from 21 to 25 June. Military units of the Russian Army stationed in Lithuania and Estonia also intend to participate in the exercises.

The Latvian side is worried about this plan and has stated that no movements by the Russian troops in connection with these exercises will be authorized and that the Russian side should cancel them.

According to a resolution by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia of 28 August 1992, it is prohibited for Russian troops to carry out exercises outside the places where they are stationed, and exercises can only be at battalion level.

OMON Member Not Subject to Immediate Extradition

WS1406145793 Tallinn BNS in English 1536 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Riga, June 12, BNS—The extradition agreement between Latvia and Russia ratified by their parliaments has no immediate force, but provides for case-by-case study, Deputy Prosecutor General Rita Aksjonoka told BNS in Riga. That is why, she said, member of a special police unit, OMON, Sergey Parfenov is not liable to automatic extradition within days or weeks.

Russian ambassador to Latvia Alexander Rannikh and Latvia's Deputy Parliamentary Chairman Valdis Birkavs exchanged ratification papers on the agreement on Thursday [10 June]. Parfenov who was convicted to a prison term on charges of office abuse in Riga is in police custody in Riga. His sentence expires in October.

Aksjonoka made it clear that the Latvian PGO [Prosecutor General's Office] could not consider Parfenov's plea for extradition to Russia to serve his term there because of the joint investigation by Latvian and Lithuanian prosecutors into the Medininkai killing of Lithuanian customs officers in the summer of 1991 in which Parfenov is a witness. She said the investigation was still under way.

Aksjonoka does not rule out that Parfenov can be held in police custody in Riga until the expiry of his sentence." [quotation marks as received] Latvian investigators fear that once in Russia, Parfenov may be released to disappear "from our sight" for good, she said.

Finnish Naval Detachment Arrives Visits Riga

WS1506125993 Riga LETA in English 0345 GMT 15 June 93

[Text] Riga, June 15 (LETA)—On Monday [15 June] a detachment of the Finnish Navy's warships arrived in Riga on a friendly visit on the invitation of Latvia's Ministry of Defence. The detachment includes the minesweeper "Rohjanmaa" and two boats of ordnance with 134 military men on board.

Lithuania

Brazauskas Admits Mistake in Recalling Lozoraitis

LD1206090893 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] President Algirdas Brazauskas has admitted having made a mistake in recalling Stasys Lozoraitis, Lithuanian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary in the United States, from his duties. This decision had been influenced by Foreign Minister Povilas Gylys.

The president admitted his mistake at yesterday's closed meeting of the Seimas LDLP [Democratic Labor Party] faction with the president and his advisers. The presidents's adviser on foreign policy, Justas Paleckis, confirmed tonight on Lithuanian television that the president talked about a mistake. According to Paleckis, this shows that the president is not one of those infallible politicians who does not see his mistakes and is unable to admit them. In the opinion of Paleckis, it has been possible to find arguments to justify the transfer of Lozoraitis from Washington to Rome; however, there have been many arguments and motivations that would encourage a different decision.

Paleckis neither confirmed nor denied to Lithuanian television that the president had been influenced by Foreign Minister Gylys and by Kazys Bobelisto, chairman of the Seimas Foreign Affairs Committee, to make such a decision concerning Lozoraitis.

Paleckis noted that there have been more persons exerting influence. According to the president's adviser, there is also a way out now. Valuable proposals have been received from emigre organizations and their leaders that would make it possible to adopt a decision acceptable almost to all.

Lithuanian television also announced that the foreign minister was openly criticized by the president's chief adviser, academician Raimondas Rajeckasat, at yesterday's meeting of the president with the LDLP faction.

Brazauskas Visit to France Previewed

LD1406110693 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 0700 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas is leaving for France today on a working visit. Justas Paleckis, the president's adviser on foreign affairs, will accompany him.

Algirdas Brazauskas will meet with the chief of the French National Bank and with the chairman of the

National Assembly's French-Lithuanian parliamentary group. He will also pay a visit to the Lithuanian Embassy in Paris.

French President Francois Mitterrand will receive the Lithuanian president at the Elysee Palace.

The Lithuanian president is also scheduled to meet with the chairman of the French Senate, some members of the government, the leadership of the city of Paris, and the heads of several large French companies.

On Wednesday, 16 June, Algirdas Brazauskas will visit Lyons, and will later leave France for Switzerland. On 17 June the annual Cranz Montana forum will be opened. Leaders and heads of governments of the European states and bankers will take part in the forum.

The president should return to Vilnius on 21 June.

Polish Defense Minister Begins Three-Day Visit

LD1406134293 Warsaw Radio Warszawa Network in Polish 1200 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] National Defense Minister Janusz Onyszkievicz is paying a three-day visit to Vilnius at the invitation of Lithuanian Defense Minister Audrius Butkevicius. During the visit, an agreement on cooperation between both ministries is to be signed.

[Begin recording of correspondent Kowalewski] Obviously it will not be a military agreement as it is not the time for such agreements, but it is going to be an agreement on cooperation between the Polish and Lithuanian Defense Ministries, Minister Onyszkiewicz said. He also stated that the agreement was to be signed a bit late for technical reasons, but still not too late. In a radio interview, Minister Andrius Butkevicius said: Both Minister Onyszkiewicz and myself see a wide scope for cooperation, above all, between Baltic states and the states of central Europe.

Minister Onyszkiewicz is expected to meet, among others, the prime minister and the Seimas speaker. He will also deliver a lecture at the University of Vilnius to staff officers and military attaches accredited in Lithuania, and will visit one of the Lithuanian military units. He began the visit by laying wreaths this morning at the Marshal Jozef Pilsudski mausoleum at Rossa cemetery and on tombs of Polish and Lithuanian soldiers who fell in 1920 in the Battle of Vilnius.

A separate program has been prepared for Minister Onyszkiewicz's wife Joanna, the granddaughter of Marshal Pilsudski. She will visit such places as her grandfather's birthplace, 60 km from Vilnius, and the place of his christening. Marek Kowalewski reporting for Polish Radio from Vilnius. [end recording]

Parliament Rejects Bill Revoking Bobelis' Powers

WS1406143893 Tallinn BNS in English 1153 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Vilnius, June 11, BNS—The Lithuanian parliament Thursday [10 June] voted down a draft resolution on taking away deputy authorizations from Kazys Bobelis, chairman of the parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee.

The draft resolution was presented by the rightist opposition.

Nothing new was mentioned during parliamentary debates: Bobelis once again said he renounced his U.S. citizenship last fall and is no longer related to any foreign state, whereas the opposition based its arguments on a note from the U.S. Embassy in Vilnius, which reportedly confirmed Bobelis' American citizenship.

According to Lithuanian law, a foreign citizen may not be elected to an institution of state power.

The opposition qualified the parliament's decision as "evident disregard of the Lithuanian Constitution and law."

Parliament Rules To Permit Phone Tapping

WS1406145993 Tallinn BNS in English 1536 GMT 12 June 93

[Text] Vilnius, June 12, BNS—The Lithuanian parliament Thursday [10 June] unanimously abrogated a paragraph of the Criminal Code on punishment for homosexuality.

Apparently, Lithuania was the last post-communist state to do this.

The parliament also legalized the use of video and audio recordings during legal proceedings and allowed phone tapping. A phone may be tapped for up to six months on permission of a judge of the Supreme Court or must be sanctioned by a chairman of a district court.

Central Bank Chairman Interviewed on Privatization

WS1506093593 Vilnius LIETUVOS AIDAS in Lithuanian 13 May 93 No. 90 pp 1, 4

[Interview with Lithuanian Bank Chairman Romualdas Visokavicius by Antanas Alisauskas; place and date not given: "Lithuania Needs Few but Strong Banks"]

[Text] Lithuania is preparing to introduce the litas and stabilize its token money—the talonas. However, the Lithuanian Bank has other troubles as well. I conversed with its chairman, Romualdas Visokavicius.

[Alisauskas] Why is there so much talk about the privatization of three state banks?

[Visokavicius] It was said very clearly when the banking system began to shape up in Lithuania two years ago that it should consist of two levels—the central bank and the commercial, cooperative, private, and joint stock banks.

State commercial banks extended certain privileges to their clients that resulted in a high inflation rate. However, the introduction of the litas requires a stable talonas.

We know the number of talonai in circulation and in bank deposits. We must explain to the people that we will exchange all talonai at the same rate. We must look for solutions to index the savings deposited until 26 February 1991. We wonder where we could find the resources to compensate these deposits. The situation in all three state banks is difficult. No one can say how to accomplish their privatization. The Lithuanian population has about 10 million talonai deposited in Moscow. These banks have extended a great number of hopeless credits. Who is going to deal with this burden?

[Alisauskas] Will it not be difficult to privatize these banks? Who will want to buy the stocks of the "losers"?

[Visokavicius] Having become aware of our position, the leaders of these banks rushed to sell their stocks. Lithuanian people should ponder this issue thoroughly before buying them. It is necessary to study the balances and debts of these banks. Having bought the stock, people will look forward to dividends. When will the latter appear? They may come only after paying all debts. Do the leaders of these banks know how they will pay the debts—with these hopeless credits?

[Alisauskas] Are you simultaneously for and against this privatization?

[Visokavicius] I am for this privatization. However, everything must be well considered. People must know that they are buying stocks with debts. It might be reasonable to put the debts of all three banks together and set up a new bank that would negotiate with Moscow. Another option would be to turn these debts into bonds, so that people get the money at least after five or 15 years. Undertaking the initiative and promoting the privatization of these banks, the Lithuanian Bank favors a wise option. We should not repeat Estonia's mistakes, when several banks went bankrupt, leaving their depositors the losers. Bankers from Switzerland and Denmark can help us. We have one good specialist, a Lithuanian from the United States, who is working on the project of bank privatization together with our people.

[Alisauskas] You also have some opponents who maintain that this privatization of state banks will deprive the state of its control over them.

[Visokavicius] The sooner we begin to work according to the international principles of banking, the sooner we will join the European Community and its banking system. Lithuania has 23 commercial banks that are successful and receive quite high profits. The three state banks would have already achieved the same level, if they had been privatized. Banks must be privatized and credited with the interest rate equaling the inflation rate. The interest rate may exceed the inflation rate by one or two percent.

[Alisauskas] A bank may be established with the stock capital of no less than 500 million talonai. Does Lithuania need only large banks?

[Visokavicius] It needs no more than five normal commercial banks. However, these banks must have their small branches in almost every town and region in order to make their services effective. According to the law on commercial banks, a loan may not exceed 20 percent of the attracted deposit.

[Alisauskas] The Social Democrats have criticized you for not keeping your promises about payments....

[Visokavicius] We have not forgotten our promises. Starting from on 17 May, all payments in Lithuania will be accomplished within 48 hours. If someone tries to interfere or does not want to pay his debt in time, we will pay special attention to such facts and present them to the gentlemen who criticize us. We would like them to help us to discipline the structures that delay payments.

[Alisauskas] Could Lithuania have a pensions bank and banks to support small- and medium-sized businesses?

[Visokavicius] Certainly, it could.

[Alisauskas] One is left with the impression that the bank capital is being administered and restricted from above. These banks can themselves merge into larger ones through competition.

[Visokavicius] We cannot leave pensioners without guarantees. That is why banks must be strong. One cannot set up a bank in Europe if its stock capital is less than 5 million ECU's [European currency units]. Our commercial banks have already established themselves, and I think that it is high time to increase their assets. What do

these 500 million talonai mean? This is only $1 million—five times less than the capital of any beginner in Europe. Let me tell you a joke—if you do not have money, do not arrange the wedding. Those who do not have the 500 million talonai and who are eager to start a bank, can consult commercial banks and set up their sections because the capital of the latter is not restricted. If some section begins prospering, it may separate and function as an independent bank.

[Alisauskas] Have you heard any critical remarks from Western bankers?

[Visokavicius] The IMF, the World Bank, and other Western banks approve of our activities. They cooperate with us and send their specialists readily. We have a good consultant coming from some fund almost every week.

[Alisauskas] Why does Lithuania not have joint stock banks with foreign countries and foreign stock banks? Is it forbidden to set them up?

[Visokavicius] No, it is not. This may mean a lack of confidence. I would like such banks to emerge here. Capital and new technologies would flow to Lithuania, and our bankers would have to compete.